

CORRECTED

SUBSTITUTE SPECIFICATION
(MARK-UP & CLEAN VERSION)

SUBSTITUTE SPECIFICATION

Docket No. **0317MH-23513**

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

BE IT KNOWN that I, **DANIEL A. HENDERSON**, have invented new and useful improvements in a

**METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR IMPROVED PERSONAL [PAGING RECEIVER]
PERSONAL COMMUNICATION DEVICES AND SYSTEMS**

of which the following is a specification:

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This Application claims the benefit of the filing date under 35 USC §§119 and/or 120, and 37 CFR §§1.60 and 1.78 to the following U.S. and U.S. provisional patent applications, and is a continuation-in-part of the U.S. patent application:

2. U.S. patent application serial no. 08/177,851, filed on January 5, 1994, entitled "Method and Apparatus for Enhancing the Efficient Communication of Information in an Alphanumeric Paging Network," now United States Patent No. 6,278,862B1.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTIONS

1. Field of th Inventions:

[This] These inventions relate[s] in general to communications systems and in particular to wireless communications systems which include paging devices and networks, cellular devices and networks, and techniques for constructing and maintaining databases.

2. Description of the Prior Art:

Numerous companies are attempting to improve the manner in which people communication over wireless systems. The [present invention] inventions address[es] many deficiencies in the prior art systems.

The following discussion is specifically related to stored voice paging receivers and paging systems.

In stored voice paging receivers it is possible to receive voice messages which may be heard by a called party. In the prior art systems is shown a method in which voice messages may be stored at a paging center from a calling party and then the message may be transmitted to a paging receiver. These systems typically include pager ID control data along with any voice message for playback through a codec unit at the paging receiver. The codec converts the data received into an audio reproduction of the calling parties voice message that may be heard from a speaker or sound output device in the paging receiver.

Such devices are useful in that the called party may have a voice message delivered to them rather than having to call in to a message center or voice mail

1 center.

2
3 However, in part, the popularity of such devices has been limited in that
4 there is no means for preventing other people to whom messages are not
5 intended from hearing voice messages of a personal or confidential nature if the
6 message is replayed by the recipient in their presence.

7
8 It is difficult for the called party to ascertain the identity of the calling party
9 prior to playing the message received to know who is calling prior to
10 broadcasting the message in the presence of others in the nearby area. To review
11 a stored message the user was required to press play and the voice message was
12 annunciated from an integrated speaker in a communication device. This was
13 impractical for a called party that was engaged in a meeting that wanted to
14 discretely listen to an urgent message without having to leave or have other
15 persons hear the message. In addition the previous stored voice paging receivers
16 gave no visual indication of who was calling.

17
18 The previous stored voice paging receivers stored messages received
19 based on the time the messages were received. This required that the messages
20 had to be reviewed in the same order regardless of the possibility that an urgent
21 message may not be heard until the very end of message review. This was very
22 inconvenient if the message required a prompt reply from the called party. In US
23 5,153,579 issued to Bennett et al. is described a method of fast forwarding
24 through messages stored chronologically. This method, though useful, requires
25 a user to sequentially listen to parts of all messages preceding a possible urgent
26 message received.

27
28 Paging networks allow for a limited amount of numeric or alphanumeric
29 data to be exchanged between a page-originating communicant and a page-

1 receiving communicant. Frequently, the page-originating communicant utilizes a
2 telephone which has a number which is not familiar to the page-receiving
3 communicant. The page is transmitted in the form of a page announce, and
4 numeric or alphanumeric which is displayed on the display of the portable paging
5 device. Under these circumstances, the page-receiving communicant is unable to
6 ascertain the identity of the page-originating communicant.

7
8 This situation is undesirable, since the page-receiving communicant may
9 ignore or defer returning the telephone call, under the mistaken belief that the
10 page-originating communicant is an unknown entity. This presents problems for
11 paging networks, particularly paging networks which include the transmission of
12 only numeric data.

13
14 In addition, in stored voice paging receivers there is no ability to sort
15 through or organize voice messages except to listen to them sequentially. This
16 can be inconvenient for the called communicant as they may want to skip certain
17 messages until later, but must listen to at least part of all of each message as the
18 voice data cannot be displayed.

19
20 One particular problem with conventional paging systems using message
21 center devices is the requirement that a caller must manually enter their call back
22 telephone number. One such example of a manual entry system is disclosed fully
23 in US 4,172,969 issued to Levine et al, US 4,072,824 issued to Phillips, and also
24 US 4,103,107 issued to D'Amico et al. This can be cumbersome particularly if the
25 calling party wishes to also leave a voice message or send some other message
26 data such as a facsimile. In addition it is especially difficult for a calling party to
27 enter an alphanumeric message during manual entry as a great majority of
28 communications over the PSTN originate from devices with standard numeric
29 keypads that generate DTMF signals. One invention which attempts to address

1 the problem of alphanumeric entry by a telephone set is US 4,918,721 issued to
2 Hashimoto. However such an approach is still cumbersome to use and is time
3 consuming for the calling party. As well, the longer it takes for a calling party to
4 enter caller identifying information, the less time a message center at the called
5 party location is available to accept other calls. The inventive concepts herein
6 attempt to resolve these and other problems.

SUMMARY OF [THE] INVENTIONS

The [present] **preferred** application is directed to the following inventive concepts:

1. Voice Paging System and Device which utilizes [CIP] **caller ID (CID)** from an originating central office as textual identifying data and generates prestored audio alert prior to annunciation of a corresponding voice message from calling party. See **Figure 4a**. CID could be fax header as in **Figures 6a and 6b**.

2. Alternate embodiment of the above where the entry of PIN is required to play back messages from a selected group of callers or for messages of confidential nature. See **Figure 4b**.

3. Alternate embodiment of the above where DTMF audio signals and voice message is received. The device has a DTMF tone decoder generates corresponding textual data record and decoded digits for display. A text to speech synthesis can be achieved prior to annunciation of message. In another embodiment, the received DTMF signals could be used to generate call back dial signals. See **Figure 4c**.

4. Alternate embodiment of the above where the CID data could be applied to text to speech unit to annunciate CID data prior to the received voice message. See **Figure 4d**.

5. Alternate embodiment where device has three modes of operation, namely, announce, silent and broadcast mode.

6. Alternate embodiment where device has sound input means to ack-back to caller. See **Figure 7b**. The sound input means is used to prestore voice response

1 messages for ack-back which is an improvement over prior art. See Figure 7a.
2

3 In one of the preferred embodiments is further shown a novel means in
4 which voice messages received may be selectively broadcast or heard
5 confidentially based upon the caller identifying data received.
6

7 The stored voice communication device described herein includes a
8 method of selectively determining how voice messages are stored and
9 annunciated using source identifier information, a comparator in the
10 communication device and called party preferences for annunciation determined
11 by a called party.
12

13 Another object is to provide a stored voice communication device which
14 shows a method of converting caller identifying information into audible speech
15 signals for a called party.
16

17 Another object is to provide an improved stored voice communication
18 device that includes a method of transmitting voice message data with source
19 identifier information.
20

21 Another improvement is to provide a more efficient method of
22 fastforwarding and reversing through messages received in such a device than
23 in the prior art.
24
25
26

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The novel features believed characteristic of the inventions are set forth in the appended claims. The **[invention itself] inventions themselves**, however, as well as a preferred modes of use, further objectives and advantages thereof, will best be understood by reference to the following detailed description of an illustrative embodiment when read in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, wherein:

Figure 1a shows the prior art stored voice paging receiver.

Figure 1b shows an improved stored voice paging receiver with a **[test] text-to-speech** means and a display input/output means to annunciate and/or display caller identification data associated with a particular voice message received.

Figure 1c shows an improved stored voice paging receiver with a sound input means, a coincidence detector, a display output means, a detachable input means, and a DTMF tone decoder means.

Figure 1d shows an improved non-display autodialing type paging receiver with text to speech generator and DTMF tone decoder.

Figure 2a shows a block diagram of a paging system described herein that has a messaging center at the called party office.

Figure 2b shows a block diagram of a paging system described herein that has a messaging center such as a voice mail center at the telephone office.

Figure 3a shows the prior art method of transmitting a voice message to a stored voice paging receiver.

1
2 **Figure 3b** shows an improved method of transmitting a voice message to a
3 stored voice paging receiver along with caller identifying data according to one
4 embodiment of the invention.
5

6 **Figure 4a** is a flowchart of one embodiment of the invention in which caller id
7 data is applied to a coincidence detector and display within a stored voice paging
8 receiver to generate a prestored audio alert signal.
9

10 **Figure 4b** is a flowchart of one embodiment of the invention in which caller id
11 and additional data entered by the caller using DTMF entry is sent with a voice message
12 to a stored voice paging receiver with a text to speech alerting means and/or display
13 means.
14

15 **Figure 4c** is a flowchart of one embodiment of the invention in which canned
16 display alerts can be generated and improved dial signal generation can be employed in
17 an improved stored voice pager.
18

19 **Figure 4d** is a flowchart of another embodiment of the invention.
20

21 **Figure 4e** is a flowchart of one embodiment of the invention in which a stored
22 voice paging receiver can have various modes for operation.
23

24 **Figure 5a** shows a sample data record that can be prestored and contained
25 within a personal communication device.
26

27 **Figure 5b** shows a sample display of message notifications received at a
28 personal communication device.
29

1 **Figur 5c** shows a memory address register within a personal communicator
2 device which stores caller id and voice message data received.

3
4 **Figures 6a and 6b** are block diagrams of **[receiving] received** fax header
5 information **[and] [transmitting] transmitted** as caller identifying information.

6
7 **Figures 7a and 7b** show improved ACK-BACK stored voice devices.

8
9 **Figures 8a shows a data connection between a personal computer and**
10 **paging receiver suitable for transfer of sound files to or from a portable**
11 **communication device. Figure 8b shows one preferred embodiment of a stored**
12 **sound file that can be transferred to a portable communication device.**

13
14 **Figures 9a and 9b depict improved ACK-BACK systems adapted to the**
15 **inventions herein.**

16
17 **Figure 10 is a block diagram of a system utilizing a dialing pager receiver**
18 **adapted to the inventions.**

19
20 **Figure 11 depicts a prior art telephone communication network;**

21
22 **Figures 12a, 12b and 12c depict schematically caller-identification**
23 **information which is transmitted over a telephone network.**

24
25 **Figure 13 depicts a numeric paging network in accordance with the one**
26 **embodiment of the invention, which is coupled to a conventional telephone**
27 **network.**

28
29 **Figur 14 depicts an alphanumeric paging n twork in accordance with the**

1 one embodiment of the invention, which is coupled with a conventional telephone
2 network.

3
4 Figure 15 depicts a portion of a database which attributes textual messages
5 to particular numeric or alphanumeric codes.

6
7 Figure 16 depicts a memory buffer which stores paging requests received
8 or transmitted to a portable communication device.

9
10 Figures 17, 18, 19a, 19b and 19c depict alternative portable communication
11 devices in accordance with the one embodiment of the invention.

12
13 Figure 20 depicts in block diagram form the operational blocks of a
14 portable communication device in accordance with one embodiment of the
15 invention.

16
17 Figure 21 depicts in flowchart form the process of engaging a paging
18 network via telephone network.

19
20 Figure 22 depicts a database with a plurality of data fields which identify
21 information which pertains to potential communicants, and which is maintained in
22 memory within the portable communication device.

23
24 Figures 23, 24, 25 and 26 depict alternative configurations of the portable
25 communication device in accordance with alternative embodiments of th
26 invention.

27
28 Figure 27 is a block diagram representation of the hardware and softwar
29 components which are utilized to exchange data between a computing device and

1 th portable communication device in accordance with one embodiment of the
2 invention.

3
4 Figure 28 depicts yet another configuration of the components which
5 cooperate to transmit data between a computing device and the portable
6 communication device.

7
8 Figures 29, 30, 31, 32 and 33 depict in block diagram, schematic, and
9 flowchart form a technique for developing a database with information pertaining
10 to potential communicants for utilization in the portable communication.
11

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTIONS

Set forth below is a description of what is currently believed to be the preferred embodiment or best example of the invention claimed. Future and present alternatives and modifications which make insubstantial changes in function, in purpose, in structure or in result are intended to be covered by the claims of this patent. Where alternative meanings are possible, the broadest meaning is intended. All words used in the claims are intended to be used in the normal, customary usage of grammar and the English language. [One particular problem with conventional paging systems using message center devices is the requirement that a caller must manually enter their call back telephone number. One such example of a manual entry system is disclosed fully in US 4,172,969 issued to Levine et al, US 4,072,824 issued to Phillips, and also US 4,103,107 issued to D'Amico et al. This can be cumbersome particularly if the calling party wishes to also leave a voice message or send some other message data such as a facsimile. In addition it is especially difficult for a calling party to enter an alphanumeric message during manual entry as a great majority of communications over the PSTN originate from devices with standard numeric keypads that generate DTMF signals. One invention which attempts to address the problem of alphanumeric entry by a telephone set is US 4,918,721 issued to Hashimoto. However such an approach is still cumbersome to use and is time consuming for the calling party. As well, the longer it takes for a calling party to enter caller identifying information, the less time a message center at the called party location is available to accept other calls. This invention attempts to resolve these and other problems.

In addition, in stored voice paging receivers there is no ability to sort through or organize voice messages except to listen to them sequentially. This can be inconvenient for the called communicant as they may want to skip certain

1 **messages until later, but must listen to at least part of all of each message as th**
2 **voice data cannot be displayed. This invention attempts to address this problem**
3 **as w ll.]** The automatic transmission of caller id or ANI data from the PSTN to a
4 message center, for storage and retransmission along with optional other data to a
5 paging center to be received in a personal communicator is **[also]** addressed **[in this**
6 **invention]**. Other advantages and objects will be realized by the description which
7 follows.
8

9 Figure 1a shows a prior art stored voice paging receiver without a display means
10 that enables a called party to fast forward and reverse through voice messages
11 received. Though useful, this type of device requires the called party to listen to part of
12 each message received before determining which message to listen to. The inventions
13 described herein teaches how an improved stored voice paging receiver can include a
14 display that shows the identity of the callers before the voice message is selected and
15 heard by the called party.
16

17 In Figure 1b is shown one embodiment which may receive textual caller
18 identifying data and display the data on a display means. Additionally, received textual
19 caller identifying data can be applied to a text to speech synthesis section for
20 annunciation prior to the replay of a voice message. Alternatively, caller identifying
21 information may be received in an audible voice form and played prior to the replay of a
22 voice message.
23

24 Figure 1c shows an alternative embodiment of a stored voice paging receiver
25 with prestored voice or sound signals and a coincidence detector, along with a DTMF
26 tone decoder.
27

28 Figure 1d shows an alternative embodiment of a non-display autodialing type
29 paging receiver with text-to-speech synthesis.

1
2 A detailed description of the device operation in Figures 1b - 1d will follow later in
3 this specification.
4

5 Figure 2a shows a paging system to be described hereinafter in which caller id
6 data is received and stored at a called station location with a message center device
7 and retransmitted to a paging center over the public switched telephone network
8 (PSTN).
9

10 Figure 2b shows an alternative embodiment in which a personal message center
11 is located at the telephone office (102) rather than at the called party office (300), such
12 as voice mail service offered by the Regional Bell Operating Companies such as Pacific
13 Bell Telephone. For brevity, the discussions herein are directed to Figure 2a although
14 it is recognized that the **[inventions] embodiments** described herein could be applied
15 to a system such as described in Figure 2b, or other similar systems.
16

17 In Figure 2a, a calling party places TEL 1 in an off-hook condition and initiates a
18 communication over the PSTN via telephone line (501) to an originating central
19 office(101) through telephone line (502) to terminating central office (102). The caller id
20 data is supplied in the conventional manner between the ringing signals from the
21 terminating central office (102) through telephone line (503) to a called station location
22 (300) which has a message center (301) and extension telephone TEL 3.
23

24 Alternately, caller id data in an ISDN environment can be sent as described in
25 Bellcore document SR-NWT-002006 entitled National ISDN, U.S. Patent 4,899,358 and
26 4,922,490 patents issued Blakely, and other Bellcore technical references widely
27 available and not described but incorporated herein by reference. Typically caller
28 identifying data supplied from custom calling services in an ISDN environment can be
29 received and stored at a message center similar to a POTS (**plain old t lephon**

1 service) environment and later transmitted to a paging receiver held by a remotely
2 located called party.

3
4 Message center device (301) may be a conventional telephone answering
5 device, a personal computer with voice/fax mail or modem communications, or a
6 conventional facsimile device, or some other device suitable for receiving incoming calls
7 automatically and initiating automatic outgoing calls automatically to a paging center in
8 response to calls received.

9
10 US Patents 4,737,979, 4,821,308, 5,333,179, 5,159,624, 5,208,850, 5,077,786,
11 5,014,296 and 4,985,913 and 5,128,980 are all variants of such devices and are
12 incorporated herein by reference, though not fundamental to the claimed inventions. For
13 example, 4,821,308 issued to Hashimoto requires manual DTMF entry by a calling party
14 of the calling parties number. In 4,985,913 caller identifying information can be
15 automatically received and stored to generate a particular paging notification but the
16 actual caller identifying data received and stored is not transmitted to a called
17 communicant through a paging center.

18
19 Fundamental circuitry for telephony and telephone related devices can be found
20 in Understanding Telephone Electronics, Third Edition, by Bigelow, also incorporated
21 herein by reference. Also incorporated herein by reference is a textbook entitled Voice
22 Processing written by Gordon E. Pelton which is a useful reference for fundamental
23 concepts discussed in this specification.

24
25 Additionally, other devices that may be incorporated in the message center
26 include a telephone answering device with video telephone as described in US
27 5,046,079, also incorporated herein by reference. Such a device is capable of receiving
28 a picture signal sent between the ringing signals that is intended to establish the identity
29 of the calling party similar to conventional textual or audible caller id information. The

1 caller identifying video image may be stored on a recording medium. Telephone devices
2 at the calling party side (TEL 1) that could be used include the AT&T VideoPhone 2500
3 or other popular teleconferencing products available recently on the personal computer.
4 For example, US Patent 5,278,889 incorporated herein by reference describes one such
5 implementation of a video telephony system. For purposes of brevity it is understood
6 that methods other than those discussed at length for textual data detection and
7 reception would be more appropriate for transmitting caller identifying video images, as
8 is well known in the art.

9
10 Message Center device (301) may automatically initiate an off-hook condition in
11 response to a ringing signal by using a ring detect interface circuit or some other means,
12 as is well known in the art. The Message Center device (301) also has a caller id
13 detection circuit which is suitable for detecting caller id data transmitted in between the
14 first and second ringing signals. The caller id detection circuit for textual data includes a
15 filter and demodulator circuit that is used for demodulating a 300 baud rate of incoming
16 serial data stream using the technique of Frequency Shift keying. Data received by the
17 circuit may include data representing the incoming telephone number, name, date and
18 time of the current incoming call.

19
20 In a Personal Computer device equipped with a modem that can receive
21 incoming calls, caller id can also be received. Such a device is becoming more popular
22 with users in that a variety of modems that can receive facsimile and/or facsimile
23 combined with voice messages are currently available. In US 5,343,516 issued to
24 Callele et al. is shown a computer system which can receive caller identification
25 information supplied between the ringing signals in the conventional manner, which is
26 incorporated herein by reference. **[This] Their** invention is interesting in that it provides
27 for the delivery of caller id information to a computer device connected to the PSTN
28 which can transfer caller id data over a network to other computers and telephone sets
29 that are the destination of the incoming telephone call. This patent does not teach how

1 to communicate this information to a remote wireless personal communicator however.

2
3 In one embodiment as described in this **[invention] specification**, the modem
4 monitors the phone line between the first and second ring burst without causing the data
5 access arrangement to go off hook in the conventional sense, which would inhibit
6 transmission of Calling Number Identification. A V.23 1200 bbs modem receiver may
7 be used to demodulate the Bell 202 signal. The ring indicate bit (RI) may be used on a
8 modem to indicate when to monitor the phone line for CND information. After the RI bit
9 sets, indicating the first ring burst, the host waits for the RI bit to reset. The host then
10 configures the modem to monitor the phone line for Calling Number Identification. The
11 CND signalling starts as early as 300 ms after the first ring burst and ends at least 475
12 mS before the second ring burst.

13
14 The received calling Number Identification may then be stored in a memory
15 **[means]** in the Personal Computer as herein described. Calling name and other
16 information could also be received, stored and transmitted using ascii character
17 representations of the data in a similar fashion. In an alternative embodiment, the
18 received number information could be used with a table look-up to append the prestored
19 calling parties name in the personal computer with the received numeric caller id data
20 for retransmission to an alphanumeric paging center. Blocked information represented
21 by the ASCII character "P" could also be received , stored and retransmitted to a paging
22 center, or used to inhibit a paging transmission to a personal communicator device.
23 Alternate numbers could be specified by the calling party to be used as the Incoming
24 Line Identification number, as is seen in US 5,283,824 issued to Shaw and incorporated
25 herein by reference. The calling party may be provided with the option of having the
26 number of his calling station or some other number used as the Incoming Caller
27 Identification number such as his/her home or business telephone number. This option
28 could be provided to the calling party by the telephone switch in the case of a credit card
29 or other type call, or could be provided to the calling party by the message center be

1 means of audible voice instructions . In either case alternate data could be stored for
2 later transmission from the message center to a paging transmitter.

3
4 The caller identifying data could also be used as described in US 4,985,913, US
5 5,278,894 and others incorporated herein by reference, in which customized greeting
6 messages could be used when particular caller id data is received at the message
7 center,

8
9 Alternatively, the message center device (301) may include an ANI detection
10 circuit rather than the caller id detection circuit previously described. ANI encoding is a
11 function performed by the network which identifies the originating phone number of the
12 message delivered to the received telephone line. ANI encoding is currently used in
13 "911" information systems, 800 and 900 numbers and many private PBX exchange
14 systems. For example, in US 4,313,035 issued to Jordan et al. incorporated herein by
15 reference is described a paging service in which the ANI directory telephone number of
16 the calling party may be delivered and stored at a TSPS (Traffic Service Position
17 System) and stored in a data base. Using a paging facility such as the BELLBOY
18 personal signalling system, a paging signal can be generated to a remote called party.
19 The called party, in response to an alert in a paging receiver, can then initiate an inquiry
20 call to determine the identity of the caller and return the call. In the **[improved
21 invention] improvements** described herein, the identity of the calling party is delivered
22 automatically to the called party paging receiver.

23
24 ANI may also be delivered to the message center device and then retransmitted
25 to a paging center with multi-frequency or DTMF tones using a somewhat different data
26 transmission protocol from caller id, which will now be described.

27
28 The information delivered from ANI ranges from Level A service that provides
29 caller area code only to Level D service that provides caller area code, city, local

exchange # and phone #. Further details about ANI are shown in US Patent 4,942,598 issued to Davis and Bellcore Technical Reference TR-NWT-000064 and FSD 20-20-0000 entitled LATA Switching Systems Generic Requirements - Automatic Number Identification and Operator Number Identification, which are both incorporated herein by reference. Such an alternative arrangement may prove to be useful to customers utilizing inbound 800 numbers as the primary access for calling parties to a message center.

ANI DETECTOR USED IN A PAGING CENTER

In a related disclosure, ANI information instead of caller id information can be used for transmission to a called party personal communicator. By incorporating an ANI decoder directly within a paging center, calling party ANI information can be incorporated in a system similar to that shown in copending applications 08/177,550 and 08/177,551.

Hereinafter, the generic term caller id shall be used interchangeably to describe conventional number and number/name caller id, ANI, video, fax header or alternate manually entered caller identifying data.

It should be understood that when a particular implementation is referring to ANI, the necessary decoding circuitry and transmission protocol would be used as opposed to different decoding circuitry and transmission protocol used for Caller ID or other caller identifying data.

CALLER ID USED IN A PAGING SYSTEM WITH A SEPARATE MESSAGE CENTER

The message center device includes a memory to store and retrieve caller

1 identifying data received in a memory means, as is well known in the art. One such
2 apparatus is described in US [5,238,818] 5,283,818 and US [5,390,346] 5,390,236
3 issued to Klausner et al and incorporated herein by reference. The message center
4 device (301) also has prestored paging transmission data in a memory means which
5 may include at least the telephone number of the paging center and any pager id data
6 that will ensure data transmitted will be sent to the appropriate called party. The pager id
7 data typically ranges from 4 to 15 digits in length to uniquely identify a paging receiver.
8 Such prestored data may be automatically recalled at the message center to generate
9 dialing instructions to a paging center upon receipt and storage of an incoming call and
10 optional data message.

11
12 Upon receiving caller id data supplied from the terminating central office at the
13 called station location, the caller id data is stored in a memory [means] or on a hard disk
14 drive and the message center device then initiates an off-hook condition to answer the
15 call. Then if the message center device (301) is of the type that stores voice messages,
16 an outgoing message such as conventionally generated by a telephone answering
17 machine or PC voice mail system or video telephone answering machine may be
18 transmitted to the calling party and a calling party may respond by annunciating a voice
19 or video message. The voice or video message is received and stored at the message
20 center (301). In addition, the stored voice or video data may be encoded or compressed
21 to conserve memory storage space in the message center device. Compression of the
22 message data will also reduce transmission time required later when the message data
23 is sent in a subsequent paging transmission from the message center device (301) to a
24 paging center (105). One such compression algorithm which is known as G.723 is
25 slated for approval by the International Telecommunications Union (ITU). It is intended
26 for use with real-time multimedia, simultaneous voice and data, and conferencing
27 applications. A software solution that delivers such a compression algorithm is available
28 from a company known as DSP Group, Inc. out of Santa Clara, California, known as
29 TrueSpeech. This software currently will run on processors such as the Texas

1 Instruments TMS320C5X, Motorola 56156 Digital Signal Processor, Intel
2 386/486/Pentium, Analog Devices 2100 and other processors.

3
4 The voice or other data may be stored contiguously in a memory location with
5 caller id data received or stored in a different memory location and associated with caller
6 id data received and stored, for later transmission to a called party personal
7 communicator(201). After the data is stored on a recording means at the message
8 center device (301) the calling party at TEL 1 hangs up.

9
10 Other message data received by the message center and associated with caller
11 id data could be received and stored in a similar fashion. For example, the message
12 center may receive a facsimile image, or a video telephone message. Received
13 facsimile or video image data could be stored with caller ID or caller identifying data and
14 transmitted to a paging receiver adapted to store and view facsimiles or video images
15 along with associated caller id or caller identifying data. Such data could be encrypted
16 such as is described in US 5,285,496 issued to Frank et al. and incorporated herein by
17 reference or **[encoded] compressed** as previously described to reduce the message
18 size for storage and transmission.

19
20 Other textual special message data such as described in US 4,811,382 could be
21 captured at the message center to be transmitted to a paging center, which is herein
22 incorporated by reference. This textual data could be sent to the message center in
23 place of caller identifying data or along with caller identifying data that could be used as
24 a header record for notification within a personal communicator device.

25
26 Upon detecting that the called party has disconnected, the message center
27 device (301) hangs up. Then the message center device (301) is returned to an off
28 hook condition and automatic paging instructions are retrieved from the prestored
29 memory means in the message center device. In the case where a paging transmitter is

1 integral to the message center, no outward dialing to the PSTN is required but instead, a
2 paging transmission may occur directly. In the case where a second telephone line is
3 connected to the message center, the message data received on the first telephone line
4 from the calling party could be sent out to a paging center over the second telephone
5 line prior to disconnection with the calling party on the first telephone line.
6

7 Follows is described a system where a paging center is connected to the
8 message center by a connection with the PSTN. Dialing instructions prestored typically
9 would include the modem access # for the paging center, and a pin # associated with a
10 particular personal communicator device or pager which is usually either 4, 7, or 15
11 digits in length, but could be any unique identifying data. A calling signal is sent to a
12 paging center (105) through telephone line (503) to originating central telephone office
13 (102) and telephone line (504), to terminating central telephone office (103).
14

15 Terminating central telephone office (103) is connected to paging center (105) by
16 a modem adapted to establish communication using predetermined communications
17 protocol suitable for the type of paging service provided. For example, data
18 communication protocol may be significantly different for numeric data from that
19 required for stored voice data communications.
20

21 The paging center (105) answers in response to a calling signal from a message
22 center and the data representative of caller id data is sent to the paging center from the
23 memory of the message center. The caller identifying data is sent to the paging center
24 using the predetermined signalling protocol (to be discussed hereinafter) followed or
25 preceded by any optional data to be transmitted. Alternatively, the message center
26 could employ a tone or other decoder responsive to control signals generated by the
27 paging center. Such a tone or other tone decoder could be employed prior to initiating
28 the transmission of caller id and message data using a predetermined signalling
29 protocol, rather than automatically transmitting the data by default or after a

1 predetermined time period elapsed. As one example of various signalling protocols that
2 could be used, US Patent 4,878,051 and 4,868,860 issued to Andros et al. **[is] are**
3 incorporated herein by reference.
4

5 Copending applications 08/177,550 and 08/177,851 both deal with paging
6 centers of the type that incorporate a caller id detection circuit connected to the paging
7 center that allow automatic detection and transmission of caller identification data to a
8 numeric, alphanumeric, or stored voice paging receiver or personal communication
9 device.
10

11 If the paging center is the type which allows caller id data to be detected from an
12 incoming caller and transmitted to a paging receiver automatically as described in the
13 above patent applications, the transmission of caller id data may be prevented by a
14 special signal present in the data transmission from the message center or by some
15 other means. For example by preceding the string of data sent from the message center
16 with a # sign, the paging center will detect the "#" sign and disable storage and
17 transmission of any caller identification data received at the caller id detector of the
18 paging center for that particular incoming call from the message center (301). Such
19 caller id data of the message center location would not be transmitted to the called party
20 portable communication device(201) in this case. Instead, the caller id data of the
21 original calling party would be sent to the pager. In another example, a caller id blocking
22 signal could be appended to the outward dialing signal that would instruct the
23 terminating central office to block transmission of caller id data from the message
24 center. Alternatively, the absence of a special signal in the string of data sent from the
25 message center (301) could indicate that the caller id data detected by the caller id
26 detector in the paging center and the string of prestored caller identifying data from the
27 message center would both be sent to called party personal communicator (201).
28 Alternatively, only the caller identification data corresponding to the message center
29 could be sent and the caller id data corresponding to the original calling party could be

1 prevented from transmission to a called party personal communicator. Such
2 modifications in the [invention] preferred embodiments invention herein provide
3 flexibility for the called parties to receive very diverse information at their paging
4 receiver. Additionally receipt of, in the above case, a "#" sign could allow for the storage
5 of the caller id data corresponding to the incoming call from the message center, but
6 prevent the data from being transmitted along with data received from the message
7 center. Such a feature would be useful to the operators at the paging center who might
8 wish to know from where their call volume originated.

9
10 In yet an alternative embodiment, the paging subscriber could predetermine in
11 advance at the paging center which calling parties they wished to receive pages from.
12 Any other calling parties not having a corresponding caller id signal that matched the
13 prestore preferences at the paging center would not be able to cause a paging signal to
14 be transmitted.

15
16 If paging center (105) is not of the type that is caller id enabled, then no such
17 special code is necessary to inhibit unwanted caller id data of the message center (301)
18 from transmission. In this case the caller id and other data received and stored at the
19 message center (301) may be automatically, or in response to a control signal
20 originating from the paging center (105), be transmitted to the paging center from the
21 message center. The message center could also automatically insert other caller
22 identifying or other data corresponding to items such as the number of facsimile pages
23 or actual voice or fax message received, or some other useful information to be sent to
24 a paging center along with the caller id data and optional message data.

25
26 In one preferred embodiment within the message center (301), the caller ID data
27 is recalled from the memory means of the message center and converted to DTMF
28 signals. One device particularly useful for conversion of caller id data to DTMF signals is
29 manufactured by Nicollet Technologies, Inc. known as the DTS-2040.

1
2 Such DTMF signals representative of numeric caller id data are then transmitted
3 from the message center to the paging center after the paging center has answered the
4 call initiated by the message center and signalled that it is ready to receive data. This
5 feature is especially useful in a numeric paging environment.
6

7 . Conversion at the message center of the stored caller id data to be retransmitted
8 over the PSTN to a paging center is not limited to DTMF signals, but may also include
9 other signalling means appropriate for alphanumeric data typically received from caller
10 id services such as name and date information. In another device manufactured by
11 Nicollet Industries, Inc., the DTS-1082 can capture caller id data and convert it to ascii
12 data for storage and later retransmission from the message center to a paging center.
13

14 **[In addition, fax header or E-mail information received at the message**
15 **center could be used alternatively as caller identifying information. Figures 6a**
16 **and 6b summarize one embodiment of this concept. The message center could,**
17 **for example, upon detection of a CNG tone, store conventional fax header**
18 **information received for retransmission to a paging center or for transmission to**
19 **a personal communicator directly from a paging transmitter integral or directly**
20 **connected to the message center. The fax header or Email information could be**
21 **transmitted to a personal communicator device that has prestored caller data**
22 **contained in a memory along with a comparing means. The caller data could**
23 **include a variety of information corresponding to frequent callers, including**
24 **name, address, telephone number, fax number, and E mail addresses for each**
25 **calling party. Additionally, a prestored voice annunciation corresponding to the**
26 **identity of a caller or a prestored video image representative of the calling party**
27 **could also be included in each caller record. Upon detection of a coincidenc**
28 **between the fax or E mail or other data received, the other associated data from**
29 **the corresponding data record could be made available to the called party.]**

1
2 **CALLER IDENTIFYING DATA COMPRISED OF FAX HEADER DATA TRANSMITTED**
3 **TO A PAGING CENTER AND PERSONAL COMMUNICATOR DEVICE**

4 Fax header information and the protocol for communication between facsimile
5 message communications devices is notoriously old. For reference, see the book
6 entitled FAX: Digital Facsimile Technology and Applications, Second Edition, and
7 Standards developed by the CCITT (International Telegraph and Telephone
8 Consultative Committee) including T.30 incorporated herein by reference. Other
9 standards are widely known though not discussed in detail here.

10
11 Briefly, in a message center which is receiving a Group 3 fax from a calling party,
12 the calling parties device can send a coded signal known as the transmit subscriber
13 identification (TSI) after handshaking is established during what is referred to as the call
14 set up or phase A. Typically the calling fax dials the telephone number of the message
15 center over the PSTN. The ring signal and the CNG calling tone are received at the
16 called message center and the CNG tone indicates the call is from a fax machine
17 instead of a voice call. The called message center answers the call by going off hook.
18 Then typically after a one second delay, the called message center sends its called
19 station identification (CSI), a 3 second 2100 Hz tone, back to the calling fax machine.

20
21 Then during Phase B known as the premessage procedure, the called fax
22 machine sends the TSI which includes at least the telephone number of the calling party
23 fax machine. This information is typically used in the message center as fax header
24 information. But in **[this] the inventions herein**, it could be used alternatively as caller
25 identifying data that can be stored in a memory at the message center for transmission
26 to a paging center to a personal communicator device similar to the methods described
27 for other caller id data. Such TSI data could be used alternatively for those areas or
28 users that do not have caller id service. In addition, such message data in the TSI may
29 include alphanumeric characters representing the calling party, time and date

1 information and page number data. In a system using only number only caller id, for
2 example, the alphanumeric data corresponding to the name of the sending party
3 contained in the TSI could be appended to the numeric caller id data for transmission to
4 a paging center and personal communicator device. Such a method could be activated
5 by the detection of a CNG signal at the message center. Alternatively, a means of
6 counting the pages received could be employed at the message center, and the total
7 number of pages received could be appended to the caller identifying data. In another
8 embodiment, only faxes of a certain length would be sent to a personal communicator
9 device.

10
11 Predefined user preferences could be used within the message center along with
12 a comparing means using the caller identifying TSI information to determine whether the
13 image data received would be sent to a personal communicator device or just the
14 notification data comprised of the caller identifying data.

15
16 In any case, alphanumeric caller identifying data could be transmitted to a paging
17 center or through an integral paging transmitter connected to the message center using
18 the same alphanumeric protocol currently used in conventional alphanumeric paging
19 systems known as TAP or IXO, incorporated herein by reference. These protocols
20 could be suitable signalling means for transmission of alphanumeric caller id data from
21 the personal message center device to a paging service modem. Typically this
22 conventional alphanumeric protocol operates at 300 baud and is well known in the art.

23
24 Of course in this case the paging center would require a suitable decoder that
25 could receive and decode the alphanumeric data from the message center. This feature
26 is especially desirable in an alphanumeric paging service in that some textual
27 alphanumeric information may be transmitted automatically for the calling party using a
28 conventional telephone at the TEL 1 which is typically devoid of any alphanumeric input
29 means. This is a significant improvement over the prior art. Various other signalling

1 protocols could be used between the message center device and the modem at the
2 paging center without departing from the spirit of **[this invention] the inventions herein**
3 that may be more adapted to higher data transmission speeds, compression algorithms
4 or the like. For example, the PCIA has made available other protocols for alternative
5 data transmission such as image and other data referred to as TDP Protocol, issued
6 June 12, 1993, which is incorporated herein by reference. These protocols could be
7 modified to incorporate caller identifying data fields for transmission with other optional
8 data. Some paging centers do not adhere strictly to published protocol but instead have
9 a variant of their own. In this case, it could be possible for the message center to
10 establish the protocol used by the paging center dynamically by first recognizing and
11 then selecting from among several different known protocols for subsequent
12 transmission of the alphanumeric caller identifying data in a form recognized by the
13 paging center. Incorporated herein by reference is a good reference entitled
14 Understanding Data Communications, Third Edition by Held which gives a fundamental
15 overview of various communications methods and terminology.

16 17 **TEXT TO SPEECH CONVERSION CONDUCTED AT THE TERMINATING CENTRAL** 18 **OFFICE**

19
20 Alternatively, the terminating central office (102) could apply a text to speech
21 converter, similar to that shown in US 4,899,358 issued to Blakely, in which an
22 annunciated caller identifying signal is sent from the terminating switch to the message
23 center device at the called station location. It is incorporated herein by reference. Such
24 annunciated caller identifying information could be particularly useful when used in a
25 stored voice paging receiver similar to devices shown in US 4,965,569 Bennett et al.,
26 US 4,868,560 issued to Oliwa, 4,873,520 issued to Fisch et al., and US 5,153,579 Fisch
27 et al., also incorporated herein by reference.

28
29 In one embodiment the caller id data is supplied to the message center from the

1 terminating central office as an audible voice representation of caller id data and stored
2 at the message center. Such data may also be encoded as previously described to
3 conserve memory storage.

4
5 In this embodiment the audible encoded caller id data can be transferred to a
6 paging center as previously described along with any optional data for transmission from
7 a paging center and annunciation at a personal communication device.

8 9 **TEXT TO SPEECH CONVERSION WITHIN THE MESSAGE CENTER OR PAGING** 10 **CENTER**

11
12 Alternatively, received and stored textual caller id data could be applied to a
13 speech synthesizer unit contained within the message center or paging center, as partly
14 described in US Patent 4,720,848 issued to Akiyama, 5,349,638 issued to Pitroda et al.
15 or US 4,742,516 issued to Yamaguchi, which deals with a communication system with a
16 voice announcement means. They are herein incorporated by reference. Also
17 incorporated herein by reference is a software product offered by Stylus Innovation, Inc.
18 out of Cambridge Mass. known as Visual Voice which runs on a personal computer.
19 Using a digital signal processor in the personal computer, text to speech processing can
20 be applied to caller id data. The resulting speech signals representative of the caller id
21 data can be stored in a storage **[means]** medium within the message center for
22 transmission to a stored voice paging center.

23
24 In addition, the Visual Voice system has an international language support that
25 can speak the caller id data in the language desired by the called party at a personal
26 communication device or at the message center. In any case, received textual caller
27 identifying data which is stored at the message center is transferred to a paging center
28 and transmitted as audible speech signals to a stored voice paging receiver.
29 Alternatively, the textual data may be applied to a text to speech converter within a

1 personal communication device for annunciation, as is well known in the art.

2
3 Irrespective of the signalling used after the calling party has disconnected with
4 the message center, DTMF or other signals representing the stored caller id data are
5 sent from the message center through the PSTN to the paging center. Any optional
6 data such as additional voice message data, DTMF, image or other message data
7 entered by the calling party may also be transferred from the message center (301)
8 memory means to the paging center for transmission to the called party personal
9 communicator (210) via radio link (509). Such a feature is useful in paging systems
10 which include stored voice paging receivers and non-voice paging systems such as
11 described in 5,095,307 or 4,961,216, which are also incorporated herein by reference. In
12 the case where caller id service is not available to a calling or called party, particularly in
13 the case of stored voice paging systems, a DTMF entry could be made by the calling
14 party to represent the caller identifying data to be transmitted with optional data such as
15 a voice message. If the caller id detector failed to detect any caller id, a default voice
16 message prompt could be generated by the message center that instructed the caller to
17 enter at least their telephone number in the conventional manner using an input device
18 at the calling parties telephone. Then the caller could be instructed to leave an optional
19 voice message which could then be transmitted to a paging center after the caller hangs
20 up. Such data would be stored at the message center as previously described and then
21 the message center could automatically call the paging center. Alternatively, caller
22 identifying data could be detected, an acknowledgement of the received and stored
23 caller id data could be annunciated back to the caller, and an option could be given to
24 modify or change the caller id data prior to leaving a voice or other optional data
25 message.

26
27 Other caller identifying data which may be more readily recognized by the called
28 party could be entered in place of the caller id data for example.

1 The information could then be transmitted by the paging center and received at a
2 stored voice paging receiver for display, annunciation and used as redial data within the
3 personal communicator device. This feature is especially useful in those cases where
4 no caller identifying data would otherwise be associated with a voice message for
5 transmission to a stored voice paging receiver or personal communicator device and is a
6 significant improvement over the prior art stored voice paging receivers.

7
8 A special code such as "*" or some other special code could be used to signal
9 the end of any DTMF or other signal data representative of caller id and to signify the
10 beginning of transmission of optional data stored at the message center. This code
11 could be automatically included by the personal message center or manually entered by
12 the calling party for storage and transmission with the caller identifying data string stored
13 at the personal message center. Optional data, such as a voice message or other data
14 entered or sent by a calling party could then be stored and transmitted after the caller
15 identifying data and demarcation code. Other coding methodologies which demarc the
16 stored caller id data from other stored optional message data may be used and are not
17 fundamental to the claimed inventions herein but are considered obvious to those skilled
18 in the art.

19
20 In the example above, wherein said optional data is a voice message, the receipt
21 of a special code signal at the paging center (105) from the message center (301) could
22 enable a voice storage memory and receiving means at the paging center to distinguish
23 other data representative of caller id information from optional data such as voice
24 messages. In addition, the data types of the caller identifying data and optional
25 message data could be different from each other and not require any demarcation data.
26 In one such case, caller identifying textual data could be detected by one type of
27 detector at the paging transmitter, and voice or image data could be detected by another
28 type of detector at the paging transmitter. The paging center could then store the data
29 received and retransmit the data to a personal communicator device.

1
2 The paging center may receive the optional data such as a voice or textual
3 message from the message center to be stored in a memory means at the paging
4 center. When the transmission is completed from the messaging center, the
5 communication with the paging center is ended and the message center and the paging
6 center hang up.

7
8 The paging center then initiates a paging transmission to the appropriate paging
9 receiver and retrieves any stored caller id data and optional data from the memory
10 means transferred from the message center. After the pager id is decoded in the
11 conventional fashion at the personal communicator device, the telephone number and
12 /or number and name (if present) and optional date and time information representative
13 of the caller id of the calling party, along with any optional data message such as a
14 voice, text or image message, are received by the called party personal communicator.

15
16 Such received data could be stored in different memory locations or in one
17 contiguous memory within the personal communicator device, demarcated by the special
18 coding method employed, to be accessed within a stored voice or other paging receiver
19 held by the called party in a variety of ways known to those skilled in the art.

20
21 In one example, to access the caller id data, a called party might press a "view"
22 button to see the caller identifying data. Or by default, the caller id data might be
23 displayed automatically when received or after a PIN is entered by the called party. To
24 access the actual voice message, a called party might press a "play" button. Such a
25 personal communicator could also be responsive to voice commands annunciated by
26 the called party into a microphone and a voice command unit within the personal
27 communicator device which is connected to the microphone and is responsive to
28 commands such as "PLAY", "REWIND", "FORWARD", etc.. In addition, stored voice
29 messages could be recorded on a removable memory such as a PCMCIA memory card

1 that is now very popular in portable computing devices. Stored voice messages with or
2 without corresponding caller identifying data could be transferred from the personal
3 communicator device to another computing or voice message storage device in a
4 central location such as the office of the called party.

5 6 **PERSONAL COMMUNICATOR DEVICE WITH IMPROVED TIME DATA INPUT** 7 **MEANS USING CALLER ID DATA** 8

9 In the caller id data received and stored at the paging center or message center,
10 time data corresponding to the time and date a communication was received could be
11 transmitted to a personal communicator device. This could be particularly useful in a
12 system in which several messages received were held in a queue for some time before
13 a transmission occurred to the personal communicator device. The time data could be
14 used as a sorting record at the paging center or message center to determine which
15 calls were transmitted in a batch fashion as opposed to immediately transmitted upon
16 receipt at the paging or message center.

17
18 For example, all calls received during peak periods during a certain time of day
19 may be transmitted later off-peak to reduce congestion on the wireless communication
20 system. Or all calls received during weekends or holidays could be transmitted in a
21 lower priority queuing sequence than calls received during the week. In addition,
22 message data received at the personal communicator could be organized and accessed
23 according to the date and time the communication was completed in a very accurate
24 and automatic fashion for the calling and called party. See related US Patent 4,872,005
25 issued to DeLuca et al. incorporated herein by reference.

26
27 In addition, such caller id time and date data could be used to initialize a time of
28 day clock contained within a personal communicator device such as a Personal
29 computer, cellular phone or the like. This could be beneficial in the circumstance where

1 a power failure erased the time and date information ordinarily entered manually by a
2 user. Other devices such as VCRs, automobile clocks and the like could be equipped
3 with a receiver that could accept such information as well.
4
5
6

7 **CALLER ID FROM A PBX WITH AN INTEGRATED OR CONNECTED TRANSMITTER** 8 **TO A PERSONAL COMMUNICATOR** 9

10 The message center could be directly connected to a paging transmitter that
11 would not require a dial in via the PSTN to a paging network. In one embodiment, the
12 message center and the paging transmitter could be an apparatus similar to that
13 described in US 5,151,930 issued to Hagl which describes a paging system within a
14 telephone private branch exchange and incorporated herein by reference. Such a
15 system could be modified such that any calls coming in from outside the PBX could be
16 passed through a caller id detector circuit as previously described, and this information
17 could be sent through to a personal communicator or call device.
18

19 In an alternate embodiment, caller id data could be delivered to a local paging
20 system such as a unit offered by Motorola known as "Site-call" which is typically
21 connected to a PBX such as the Meridian 1 manufactured by Northern Telecom.
22

23 Appropriate software and hardware at the PBX could capture and deliver ANI or
24 Caller ID data to the "Site-Call" or similar local paging system. The prior art local paging
25 systems require a calling party to enter their telephone number by DTMF entry, which is
26 then transmitted by a local paging transmitter. This is limited in that only numeric data
27 may be received and displayed to alert a called party. Alternatively in the prior art
28 systems, a message such as "outside call" is displayed at the pager. By integrating
29 various concepts taught in the **[invention] embodiments** herein, telephone number

1 data and other caller identifying data may be automatically sent from a PBX to an onsite
2 pager for display, annunciation, or other alerting means.

3
4 Alternately, a call could be received at the PBX and if the call was unanswered at
5 the called station, a message could be taken in a voice mail center and the caller id
6 data(along with an optional voice or other message) could be delivered to a paging
7 receiver by way of an onsite or offsite paging transmitter.

8
9 The message center device may be directly connected to a paging terminal,
10 thereby eliminating the necessity of a second connection to the telephone network. The
11 paging terminal could be a "People Finder" paging terminal manufactured by Motorola,
12 Inc.

13
14 In another implementation, the message center device is interfaced to a paging
15 terminal such as the Modax paging terminal manufactured by Motorola, Inc. which was
16 adapted to transmit additional caller identification information with a standard paging
17 transmission. The interface from the message center to the paging terminal may be
18 through a 1 or 2 telephone line interface. The interconnection to a paging terminal and
19 the terminal's subsequent operation are well known in the art. The paging terminal
20 transmits to a personal communicator which is capable of receiving and decoding
21 paging signals modulated by the paging terminal in a radio frequency manner. The
22 personal communicator also has the capability to store a message and to play back a
23 message which may include caller identifying source indicator data as previously
24 described that may be viewed on a display member or heard first through an
25 annunciation means.

26
27 In FIGURE 2b is described a message center which is at the telephone office
28 rather than the called party office. The concepts previously described for a called party
29 office based message center could also be modified and incorporated in the

1 conventional voice mail system offered by the telephone company.

2 3 **AUTOMATIC PAGING TELEPHONE SET USING CALLER ID INSTEAD OF DTMF** 4 **FOR CALLER IDENTIFYING DATA**

5
6 In US 5,128,980 issued to Choi is described a system in which a calling party
7 may enter their phone number using DTMF for automatic transmission to a paging
8 center and is incorporated herein by reference. This method could be modified to
9 incorporate a caller id detector which would be substituted for, or supplied in addition to,
10 the DTMF receiver. When the device is in a pager number recording mode (either
11 between the first and second ringing signals or after the device is placed in an off-hook
12 position) the caller id data may be entered and stored automatically for the calling party,
13 may be manually entered by DTMF entry by the calling party, or may be entered and
14 stored using part of the caller id data supplied automatically and part of the data
15 manually entered by the calling party. Then the caller identifying data can be
16 transmitted to a paging center along with any optional data as described in the patent in
17 an automatic, manual, or combined fashion.

18 19 **COINCIDENCE DETECTION WITHIN THE MESSAGE CENTER**

20
21 Optional data such as a voice message can be selectively transmitted to the
22 called party, based on some comparator at the message center that analyzes the
23 source identity of the calling party with prestored user preferences determined in
24 advance by the called party. Or by default, all optional data received could either be
25 stored for later retrieval by the called party or stored and transmitted to the called party
26 personal communicator device along with the caller identifying data. The paging
27 transmission can be encoded at the paging transmitter to economize on valuable
28 transmission time, and then later decoded on a real time or delayed basis within the
29 receiving called party personal communicator. Private flagged caller id data and optional

1 messages may be automatically omitted from storage at the message center or omitted
2 from transmission to a personal communicator device.

4 **STORED VOICE COMMUNICATOR WITH TEXT HEADER INFORMATION DISPLAY**

5 Incorporated herein by reference is US 5,390,362 issued to Modjeska et al. This
6 patent discloses a method of combining voice and data into a message format that can
7 be sent to a pager capable of receiving a combination voice and data message. A
8 called party may selectively review header information corresponding to the calling party
9 prior to listening to any received voice message. A paging transmitter such as described
10 in this disclosure can be modified to incorporate a caller id or ANI decoder (207) or fax
11 signal decoder (209) in automatic telephone input (202) that can receive data
12 automatically from the PBX or PSTN (108) and store this data in paging terminal
13 controller memory (232). Voice synthesizer (208) can playback for the calling party a
14 text to speech synthesized representation of caller id or ANI data and ask whether the
15 data should be sent with the paging message. For example, the voice synthesizer (208)
16 can receive textual caller id or ANI data such as "555[6]-1212 John Smith" from the ANI
17 or Caller ID decoder and then generate the following instructional message to the calling
18 party, "Press or say 'ONE' if you wish for '555-1212 John Smith calling.' to be
19 transmitted. Press or say 'TWO' if you wish this information to be transmitted and
20 marked urgent. Press or say 'THREE' if you wish for this information to not be sent and
21 you wish to enter some other data from your touchtone keypad or keyboard." The
22 calling party, upon hearing the synthesized voice annunciation, then can select which
23 caller identifying data should be sent. In the case of a stored voice paging system, upon
24 hearing confirmation of the desired caller identifying data, the calling party would then be
25 instructed to leave a voice message, which would be stored in the voice store and
26 forward module (216). The confirmed caller identifying data would be stored in memory
27 232 to be linked with the voice message data stored in memory 224 for transmission
28 from transmitter base station 226 to a selective call receiver. In the case of a paging
29 system equipped with a fax store and forward module 216 and fax signal decoder 209,

1 fax header information as previously described could be received and stored in memory
2 232, fax data could be received and stored in memory 224, and the contents of
3 memories 224 and 232 could be transmitted by transmitter base station 226 to a
4 selective call receiver.

5
6 In US Patent 5,283,818 is shown a message system which describes a system
7 linking textual data with voice messages, and is incorporated herein by reference. Such
8 an apparatus could be modified to incorporate the transmission of caller identifying data
9 and voice data to a stored voice paging receiver, via a call from the message center to a
10 paging transmitter via the PSTN as previously described. In addition, to economize on
11 minimizing the time spent connecting with a paging center, the messages received at
12 the message center could be queued for batch transmission either during offpeak
13 periods or periodically. Exceptions could be made for urgent message transmission that
14 could occur without waiting for the message queue transmission.

15
16 Another patent incorporated herein by reference is US 5,258,751 issued to
17 DeLuca et al. Message storage slots can include caller identifying data display which
18 has been transmitted to a selective call receiver or personal communication device as
19 discussed hereinbefore. Any corresponding voice or other message data can then be
20 displayed or annunciated after the user selects the desired message for review.

21
22 Upon receipt at the personal communicator device, the user could scroll through
23 the received messages such as described in US 5,285,493 issued to Wagai et al. and
24 incorporated herein by reference, or by numerous other methods discussed in the
25 various personal communicator apparatus described by reference or example herein.

26
27 The messages could be stored chronologically, with resequencing of the
28 previously stored messages occurring automatically upon receipt of any new message
29 or deletion of any previously recorded message. Alternatively, the messages with the

1 caller id header data could be selectively stored as determined by the user in a number
2 of ways. The messages could be stored based upon preselected criteria. For example,
3 all messages determined to be of an urgent nature or from a particular communicant
4 could be automatically stored in the firstmost message storage slot positions. In another
5 embodiment, all messages could be analyzed and then stored sequentially in an
6 ascending or descending order, based on the caller id header data presented. US
7 Patent 5,225,826 is incorporated herein by reference and discloses a selective call
8 receiver with an integral time of day clock. Messages received with identical header
9 data records could be stored according to the time and date received within the selective
10 call receiver, the time and date data present in the header data, or according to urgent
11 indicators contained in the header data.

12 13 **TEXT TO SPEECH CONVERSION OF CALLER ID HEADER DATA WITHIN A** 14 **PERSONAL COMMUNICATOR DEVICE**

15
16 In another embodiment, the textual information received at the personal
17 communication device could be applied to a codec within the personal communicator
18 device which is particularly suited to visually impaired persons. Application of a text to
19 speech codec which converts received caller id signals to audible speech signals is well
20 known in the art, as shown in US 5,289,530 issued to Reese and incorporated herein by
21 reference. Such a personal communicator device could be manufactured without a
22 display member to reduce manufacturing costs for specialized purposes.

23
24 In the case of a stored voice message which is transmitted to a stored voice type
25 called party personal communicator without a display member, textual caller identifying
26 data could be annunciated. Such a device could also employ a display member that was
27 capable of selectively or simultaneously displaying caller identifying data received at the
28 personal communicator device.

COINCIDENCE DETECTION WITHIN A PERSONAL COMMUNICATOR DEVICE

Data representative of caller id information may be used at the called party personal communicator as key record data which could comprise the notification display or could generate some other associated notification means within the called party personal communicator in response to receipt of the caller identifying portion of the message. The personal communicator device could employ a coincidence detector which may generate a number of notification events in response to a match with prestored data or user preferences compared against the caller id data received. For example, upon detecting that a coincidence existed with a prestored data record, a prestored visual image of the calling party could be displayed. In another instance, a coincidence detection within the personal communicator device could require a called party to enter a personal identifying entry before the confidential message could be reviewed. In yet another embodiment, a coincidence detection could inhibit any associated message transmitted from a message center from being reviewed by the called party at the personal communicator device. In yet other embodiments, received fax header information or Email addresses could be compared against a prestored directory within the personal communicator device to display or annunciate other corresponding data records.

EMBODIMENT USING BLOCKED CALLER ID DATA

Upon receipt of a "blocked" caller id data such as described in LSSGR - Class Feature: Calling Identity Delivery Blocking Features - FSD 01-02-1053, US 5,341,411 issued to Hashimoto entitled Caller ID Blocking Method and Processing System, and US Patent 5,161,181 issued to Zwick entitled Automatic Number Identification Blocking System (all incorporated herein by reference and subject to modification with the **[present] inventions herein**), the personal communicator device could respond by not storing the message at the message center which would have been directed to the

1 personal communicator device. In addition any blocked caller id data could be used at
2 the message center to store and prevent retransmission of the data to the personal
3 communicator device. Alternatively a calling party could selectively omit the
4 transmission of caller ID data by using the blocking signal and sending to the personal
5 communicator device only manually entered data, such as a DTMF signal, a card swipe
6 in a magnetic card reader, a voice message, image or other data in place of caller id
7 data automatically supplied by the telephone company.
8
9

10 REDIAL MEMORY EMBODIMENT 11

12 Received caller id data can be selectively transferred to a data buffer within the
13 called party personal communicator device for redialing, as seen in US 4,924,496
14 issued to Figa and US 4,873,719 issued to Reese, incorporated herein by reference.
15 Logic can be incorporated into the receiving device that distinguishes either positionally
16 or by filtering the numeric data from the alphanumeric data to ensure that only the
17 numeric data was retrieved and transferred to a data buffer for redial instructions. Such
18 redial instructions within a personal communicator device could include the ability to
19 distinguish between a local dialing mode in which caller identifying data corresponds to
20 call-back numbers within the local calling area. In this case, only the local portion of the
21 caller id data representing the calling parties telephone number would be used to
22 generate a dialing instruction from the personal communicator device. In other cases,
23 the entire caller id representing the telephone number of the calling party could be used
24 to generate a dialing signal. This is well known in the art as described in US 4,985,918
25 issued to Tanaka.
26

27 Typically Caller ID data transmitted includes either 7 digit or 10 digit numeric data
28 corresponding to the calling parties telephone. Other recent proposals related to the
29 field of Caller Identification deal with automatic transmission of Caller identification from

1 international callers which may consist of less than the required data to complete a
2 return call to the original calling party but more than 7 or 10 digits.

3
4 In one embodiment, upon receipt of an interstate caller id consisting of a 10 digit
5 numeric caller id number such as 305-555-1212, it is necessary to insert a "1" prior to
6 converting caller id data received into a dial signal for the called party to return the call
7 from a cellular telephone device which may be integral or connected to the personal
8 communicator device. Such caller id data as described herein would not complete a
9 dialing signal unless the user manually dialed the digit "1" before the remaining digits
10 were dialed out. As a function of the improved redial circuit in this **[invention]**
11 **embodiment**, any ten digit caller id data received and stored could automatically be
12 preceded with a digit "1" at the personal communicator device rather than requiring
13 manual entry by the called party prior to dialing. Additionally, in response to receipt of
14 an international caller id numeric sequence, the international caller id data could be
15 preceded by a country code and international calling code like "011" such as is
16 conventionally used. In an alternative embodiment, such additional calling code data
17 could be appended at the message center or at the paging center prior to transmission
18 to a personal communicator device. In some cases a called party may wish to call in
19 first to a long distance service such as 1-800-CALLATT, then enter their account code
20 and pin, and then redial the caller id number received.

21
22 In the case where a credit call should be made as described above, the personal
23 communicator device may not automatically insert any special calling codes to be
24 appended to the caller id data received, but instead may use the caller id data as
25 received for redial data after the other credit calling data is transmitted. In the case
26 where special calling code data has been appended prior to receipt at the personal
27 communicator device, the personal communicator device could strip away or disable the
28 calling codes such as "1" or "011" and only generate the necessary calling sequence
29 corresponding to the telephone number of the original calling party, using the last 10

1 significant digits in the case of a domestic call. In any case such additional features
2 would be very beneficial to the user of such an equipped personal communicator device
3 with a redial feature.
4

5 Where caller identifying data received is comprised of speech signals that
6 represent the calling parties telephone number and/or name, such data could be stored,
7 transferred and used as a redial instruction from the personal communication device to
8 a communication network which was well equipped to receive voice commands for a
9 dialing instruction, such as is seen currently in the Sprint Voice Foncard service and
10 other services, incorporated herein by reference. Selectively or in combination, the
11 speech signals representing the name or telephone number of the calling party could be
12 generated by the personal communicator device to communicate redial instructions to a
13 communication system with voice recognition or with speech command capability.
14

15 **MEET ME SERVICE EMBODIMENT** 16

17 Such features could be useful as well in a "Meet me" service in which a calling
18 party is placed on hold at the message center. Typically a calling party is instructed to
19 remain on hold and may be asked to enter their telephone number by DTMF entry or
20 entry of a special signal which constitutes a "meet" request. Then the DTMF or special
21 signal is sent through a paging transmitter to a paging receiver. When the paged
22 communicant receives the page, they may call back on a telephone link to the meet me
23 center to be connected with the calling party. However it requires manual entry by the
24 calling party of the call in number of the meet-me service and the called party cannot
25 always remember or know who may be calling by the telephone number alone. Such
26 information is critical for the called party to properly screen meet requests. One system
27 incorporated herein by reference is described in US 4,172,969 issued to Levine et al. In
28 this system, the caller is instructed to dial his calling number. The signals are then
29 conveyed over the telephone line to the receiver telephone answering device to be

1 transmitted to a mobile receiver unit. Another such system is described in part by US
2 5,208,849 issued to Fu, incorporated herein by reference which can be adapted to [my
3 invention] the inventions herein. Another Meet me type system is described in US
4 5,327,480 issued to Breeden, and 5,151,929 issued to Wolf incorporated herein by
5 reference which can be adapted [to my invention] to the inventions herein.
6

7 By incorporating the automatic transmission of calling party number and name in
8 an alphanumeric paging network for example, the called party can more accurately
9 determine who is calling before accepting the "meet" invitation. In the case where a
10 voice Caller ID is supplied by the terminating central office to the meet me service at the
11 message center, the called party can hear an annunciation of the callers identity from a
12 personal communicator device suitable for the replay of such information.
13

14 The called party personal communicator receives a "meet" request from the
15 paging center which consists of at least the meet request signal supplied automatically
16 or a meet request signal initiated by the calling party. In addition to, or in place of the
17 meet request signal, the caller id data received and stored at the message center
18 corresponding to the calling party on hold can be transmitted to the personal
19 communication device. The calling party could also at this time enter other additional
20 information such as an urgent indicator or special code agreed upon between the calling
21 party and the called party for transmission along with the caller id data and/or meet
22 request. In any case, the calling party is instructed to remain on hold while the called
23 party is paged for a possible meet by the paging center.
24

25 If the called party does not respond within a prescribed period of time, the calling
26 party can then additionally be instructed to leave optional data such as a voice message
27 that can either be retrieved later by the called party, or can be transmitted to the called
28 party personal communicator after the caller disconnects. In another embodiment if the
29 calling party does not wish to wait any longer for the called party to call in to the meet

1 me center, then the called party can interrupt the meet me service by for example
2 depressing the # sign.
3

4 At this point the message center at the meet me service can instruct the caller to
5 enter optional data such as a voice message for storage and/or transmission to the
6 called party. After the calling party disconnects from the message center at the meet me
7 service, the message center can send an additional signal in a second transmission to
8 the personal communication device through a paging center or integral paging
9 transmitter. This signal can indicate that the calling party hung up and that a "meet" with
10 the calling party at the message center is not possible. This transmission can also
11 include any optional voice or other data left by the calling party.
12

13 Such data which is to be transmitted can be incorporated with the previously
14 stored caller id data at the message center for transmission to the personal
15 communicator device. Alternatively the optional data such as a voice message can be
16 transmitted to the called party personal communicator device and appended to, or
17 associated with received caller id data from the calling party.
18

19 In the above described or similar systems, the detected caller id information can
20 be transmitted automatically to the personal communicator device in a more efficient
21 manner that will provide more information to the called party and relieve the calling party
22 of inconvenience.
23

24 Of course caller id blocking options could be employed as previously described in
25 this application. Other variants of these "meet me" services could also easily employ a
26 caller id detector to transmit the caller identifying data automatically. For sake of brevity,
27 these various systems are not described in detail although it is believed that those
28 skilled in the art can adapt the methods described herein.
29

AUTO DIALING PERSONAL COMMUNICATOR EMBODIMENT

The paging receiver device could also be a dedicated paging receiver with a DTMF signal generator such as seen in US 4,490,579 issued to Godoshian, 5,099,507 issued to Mukai et al. 5,280,516 issued to Jang or 5,212,721 issued to DeLuca et al., incorporated herein by reference. Received caller id data received could be used to generate a dialing signal in an acoustically coupleable dialer device, or via an external telephone line connector within the called party personal communicator. The received caller identifying data could be digital data representative of numeric information corresponding to the call-back number of the calling party. Such received digital data could be applied to a DTMF generator to output a dialing signal.

Alternatively, the received caller identifying data could be audible DTMF signals which were recorded as audible signals at the message center after manual entry by a calling party. In another embodiment, textual caller id data could be converted to audible DTMF signals at the message center to be transferred to a voice paging center as audible signals. Upon receipt at the paging center, the audible signals could be transmitted to a personal communication device along with any optional data. The audible DTMF sounds and optional data could be stored and replayed through a speaker.

Alternatively the DTMF sounds could be converted to a dial signal for a cellular telephone device or via a telephone line connector. The received audible DTMF signals could be applied to a DTMF decoder and character generator within the personal communicator device to display the audible DTMF sounds received. This method could be particularly useful in that the personal communication device would not require a DTMF generator to create a dialing signal. In addition, audible DTMF sounds could be prestored into a personal communication device or dialing apparatus by means of a computer download interface that releasably electrically or acoustically coupled to a

1 dialing apparatus or personal communicator with a memory means, control means and
2 data input receiving means.

3
4 These audible DTMF sounds could then be used as described previously to
5 generate an audible dial signal for acoustical coupling, or converted to an electrical
6 signal for other dialing means.

7
8 In a different embodiment, the received and stored DTMF sounds could be
9 applied to a DTMF decoder and character generator and optional text to speech unit to
10 display or annunciate the data received. The personal communicator or dialing
11 apparatus could interpret the stored audible DTMF signals within the personal
12 communicator or dialing device and generate a display or voice annunciation of the
13 telephone number information. This could be accomplished by a standard DTMF
14 decoder circuit and character generator such as described in US Patent 4,882,750
15 issued to Henderson et al. incorporated herein by reference and a text to speech unit
16 well known to those skilled in the art.

17
18 This improvement could be useful in autodialer devices such as described in this
19 patent. For example, a circuit commonly used to store voice signals such as the Radio
20 Shack, part number 276-1324 or Radio Shack part number 276-1325 could be used to
21 store and replay the received DTMF signals through a transducer in a conventional
22 autodialer. The audible DTMF signal could be received by a sound input means which
23 was connected to the circuit during a programming mode. During a replay mode, the
24 DTMF **[sounds] signals** previously programmed could be replayed through a
25 transducer attached to the autodialer, or the DTMF **[sounds] signals** could be
26 transferred to a transmitting means that could generate the DTMF signal to a
27 communication link such as in a cellular or landline communication system.

28 29 **COMBINED PAGER / RADIOTELEPHONE EMBODIMENT**

1
2 The paging receiver device could alternatively be contained within a cellular
3 telephone device as in US 5,117,449 issued to Metroka et al. or in US 5,148,473 issued
4 to Freeland et al. in which a paging and cellular radio telephone function are combined
5 in a single device. These patents are also incorporated herein by reference.
6

7 When the paged party receives a page, the caller id data can be stored for later
8 use and an alert tone, a vibration, a visual indication or a voice message can alert the
9 called party who may be engaged in a telephone conversation on the cellular telephone.
10 When the paged party wishes to return the call from the calling party after hanging up,
11 the stored caller id data can be selected and recalled for dialing at the touch of a button.
12

13
14 Of particular utility, alphanumeric caller id data received can textually identify a
15 calling party to aid in selection of a desired callback number and the included numeric
16 caller id information can be utilized to generate a dialing signal. In a number only caller
17 id transmission the number only will be supplied to the combined pager/radiotelephone.
18 In this case, the received numeric information can be transferred to a comparing means
19 and compared against a prestored directory in the device. In this manner, the paged
20 party can more easily identify the caller and return the call more efficiently. US
21 4,924,496 issued to Figa describes one such method in greater detail and has already
22 been incorporated herein by reference.
23

24 **PCMCIA PAGING RECEIVER EMBODIMENT**

25

26 Another alternative embodiment using the claimed inventions can be seen in US
27 5,043,721 issued to May which discloses a paging accessory using a PCMCIA interface
28 which is connected to a personal computer or integrated in a computing device. This
29 patent is incorporated herein by reference.

STORED VOICE PAGING RECEIVER AND SYSTEM EMBODIMENT

[The following discussion is specifically related to stored voice paging receivers and paging systems.

In stored voice paging receivers it is possible to receive voice messages which may be heard by a called party. In the prior art systems is shown a method in which voice messages may be stored at a paging center from a calling party and then the message may be transmitted to a paging receiver. These systems typically include pager ID control data along with any voice message for playback through a codec unit at the paging receiver. The codec converts the data received into an audio reproduction of the calling parties voice message that may be heard from a speaker or sound output device in the paging receiver.

Such devices are useful in that the called party may have a voice message delivered to them rather than having to call in to a message center or voice mail center.

However, in part, the popularity of such devices has been limited in that there is no means for preventing other people to whom messages are not intended from hearing voice messages of a personal or confidential nature if the message is replayed by the recipient in their presence.

It is difficult for the called party to ascertain the identity of the calling party prior to playing the message received to know who is calling prior to broadcasting the message in the presence of others in the nearby area. To review a stored message the user was required to press play and the voice message was annunciated from an integrated speaker in a communication device. This was

1 impractical for a called party that was engaged in a meeting that wanted to
2 discretely listen to an urgent message without having to leave or have other
3 persons hear the message. In addition the previous stored voice paging receivers
4 gave no visual indication of who was calling.
5

6 The previous stored voice paging receivers stored messages received based on
7 the time the messages were received. This required that the messages had to be
8 reviewed in the same order regardless of the possibility that an urgent message
9 may not be heard until the very end of message review. This was very
10 inconvenient if the message required a prompt reply from the called party. In US
11 5,153,579 issued to Bennett et al. is described a method of fast forwarding
12 through messages stored chronologically. This method, though useful, requires
13 a user to sequentially listen to parts of all messages preceding a possible urgent
14 message received.
15

16 In this invention is further shown a novel means in which voice messages
17 received may be selectively broadcast or heard confidentially based upon the
18 caller identifying data received. The stored voice communication device and
19 invention herein include a method of selectively determining how voice messages
20 are stored and annunciated using source identifier information, a comparator in
21 the communication device and called party preferences for annunciation
22 determined by a called party.
23

24 Another object is to provide a stored voice communication device which
25 shows a method of converting caller identifying information into audible speech
26 signals for a called party.
27

28 Another object is to provide an improved stored voice communication
29 device that includes a method of transmitting voice message data with source

1 identifier information.

2
3 Another improvement is to provide a more efficient method of
4 fastforwarding and reversing through messages received in such a device than in
5 the prior art.]
6

7 [Such] Caller identifying data received may include textual data representative of
8 caller id data automatically supplied from the PSTN as described previously, or may
9 include some other textual data such as received from a DTMF entry by the caller at a
10 message center or paging center, an E-Mail message or document received with an
11 embedded or compressed voice message, or other data. For example, textual data
12 representing the identity of the sending party could be represented by an E-mail address
13 such as HASHIMOTOK@HCJ.COM. The message could be transmitted to a selective
14 call receiver along with a voice message which was sent by a calling party's personal
15 computer equipped with a sound board with appropriate software. In addition, the caller
16 identifying information could be a particular iconographic representation of the calling
17 party such as described in the Magic Cap software environment using so called
18 Telescript technology available from General Magic and incorporated herein by
19 reference, or a still video image of the calling party transmitted with the voice message
20 by the calling party premises equipment.
21

22 For example, visually displayable images transmitted after the message center
23 device has gone offhook in response to a ringing signal could be received and stored
24 with an associated voice message. One such implementation particularly adapted to
25 simultaneous voice and visual data transmission that is currently being implemented is
26 known as VoiceView. Incorporated herein by referenced and manufactured and
27 licensed by Radish Communications Systems, Inc. out of Boulder, Colorado. VoiceView
28 lets calling parties transmit visual images along with voice data in a standard POTS
29 environment, which in the preferred embodiment could be captured and stored in a

1 memory means at the message center for later transmission to a paging receiver or
2 personal communication device. Alternatively, in an ISDN environment, simultaneous
3 transmission of voice and image data could occur in a similar fashion such that
4 message or caller identifying visual data could be stored along with a voice message for
5 later transmission to a communication device.

6
7 This information could be displayed on a display member upon receipt of the
8 message at the stored voice communication device in advance of annunciating, or
9 simultaneous with, annunciation of the voice message.

10
11 Alternatively, the caller identifying information could be used to generate an
12 audible alert means such as prestored sound data contained within the communication
13 device and applied to a comparing means that corresponds to choices made by the
14 called party. Or received caller identifying data could be applied to a text-to-speech
15 generator contained within the paging receiver and annunciated to the called party. US
16 Patent 4,975,693 issued to Davis et al. is incorporated herein by reference.

17
18 Alternatively, the caller identifying data received at a paging center or message
19 center could be applied to a data generator which would compare the caller identifying
20 data received and generate predetermined character strings for transmission to a
21 communication device such as described in US 4,962,377 issued to Wallace et al. and
22 incorporated herein by reference.

23
24 Alternatively, the received textual data could be converted to a text to speech
25 converter at the paging center prior to transmission to the stored voice communication
26 device.

27
28 Upon receipt of a message at the communication device, only the caller
29 identifying data **[would]** may be displayed or annunciated prior to annunciation of the

1 voice message after selection by the called party. In addition, such voice messages
2 received from certain parties could be marked as of a confidential nature by the calling
3 party so that a password would be required by the called party to hear the message.
4

5 In another preferred embodiment, the personal message center could comprise a
6 voice mail center, a personal computer or a conventional telephone answering machine
7 as previously described and well known in the art. In such systems, the received caller
8 id data could be used with a comparing means at the voice mail center, personal
9 computer or conventional telephone answering machine to selectively transmit
10 associated voice message data without the caller identifying data. Such a feature is a
11 substantial improvement over existing paging systems. This is a departure over the
12 prior art in that prior art voice message systems do not transmit voice data to
13 conventional stored voice paging receivers. One of the main advantages of such an
14 approach is that the cost of the stored voice paging receiver is reduced because there
15 are no display means required in the voice paging receiver.
16

17 Alternatively, the called party could preselect which calling parties could require a
18 password upon receipt and prior to playback. Callers from a particular calling group
19 could be assigned with an automatic annunciation attribute in which any received calls
20 from this group would automatically be broadcast, no matter when the message was
21 received. See US Patent 5,073,767 issued to Holmes et al. and US Patent 5,146,217
22 issued to Holmes et al. which are incorporated herein by reference.
23

24 In one embodiment the stored voice communication device may receive all voice
25 messages and based upon the caller identifying data or password data also received,
26 may selectively broadcast through a speaker or playback only through a sound output
27 accessory such as an earphone, based upon the desired mode of annunciation
28 predetermined by the called party with annunciation mode instructions. Such
29 instructions could be as data associated with prestored caller identifying data and the

1 voice message, or by an annunciation mode switch that was connectable to a
2 comparing means.

3
4 If for example, a message received was determined to be of a private nature not
5 available for broadcast, the message could not be heard unless an earphone was first
6 attached to the communication device and the message was selected for playback.
7 Alternatively, the communication device could sense that the earphone was attached
8 and automatically playback the message through the earphone without any further
9 selection. See US Patent 5,075,684 issued to DeLuca and incorporated herein by
10 reference.

11
12 In addition, it may be useful for messages received and stored in the personal
13 communication device to be transferred for archival at a personal computer. Such a
14 personal communicator could be fitted with a serial, parallel, infrared or other
15 communication link and appropriate data transfer capability so that received messages
16 could be transferred to another device for speech to text transcription, archival voice
17 message storage or other functions.

18
19 The stored voice communications device includes a means for receiving
20 transmitted voice messages, receiver identifying control information, and source
21 identifier information such as caller id, ANI, synthesized caller id, DTMF, image, or the
22 like. Further the device may include a first audio output means such as an integrated
23 speaker, an optional second audio output means such as an earphone jack, a third
24 optional text to speech output means and a codec means to convert data received into
25 audible voice data. Further the device may include a selection and storage means for
26 prestoring called party annunciation selections, and a comparing means to match caller
27 identifying data received with the prestored called party annunciation preferences.

28
29 A first switch means allows a received voice messages to be delivered using the

1 first audio output means by default, unless otherwise directed by prestored called party
2 preferences .
3

4 A second switch means allows received voice messages to be delivered using
5 the second output means by default, unless otherwise directed by prestored called party
6 preferences.
7

8 A third switch means allows received caller identifying data received to be
9 delivered to a text to speech conversion means, although it is recognized that such data
10 could also be applied to such a conversion means automatically by default rather than
11 based on the switching means. US Patent 4,742,516 issued to Yamaguchi shows one
12 method of text to speech translation and is incorporated herein by reference. Another
13 US Patent 4,716,583 issued to Groner shows another method of text to speech
14 translation and is also incorporated herein by reference.
15

16 The stored voice paging receiver also includes a selection and storage means to
17 allow a user to predetermine which corresponding source identifiers will utilize the first
18 audio output means, the second audio output means or the third text to speech
19 conversion means. In addition, based upon the caller identifying data received, the
20 communication device could determine which order voice messages would be stored
21 and accessed in a message storage means. For example, all the messages marked
22 urgent could be accessible first, or the messages could be retrievable based upon the
23 time sent, or based on the identity of the caller. All callers that were determined to be
24 family members may be prioritized differently than callers that were business contacts.
25

26 A password means in the communication device allows for preselection of a
27 password by the called communicant and entry of a password prior to annunciation of
28 messages determined to be from a calling party that may be of a private nature.
29

1 A comparator means in the stored voice communication device compares the
2 received and/or stored voice message source identifier with predetermined user
3 preferences and stores and delivers the received messages based on the
4 predetermined user preferences.
5

6 Further as previously described, the stored voice personal communicator could
7 also include a dial function in which the speaker or transducer used to annunciate voice
8 messages could also be used to acoustically couple the communicator and to generate
9 a dial signal as has been described hereinbefore. Audible DTMF signals received at the
10 stored voice paging receiver, or digital numeric data converted to DTMF at the
11 communicator could generate a dialing signal.
12

13 In Figure 1b is shown an improved stored voice paging receiver with a display for
14 caller identifying textual or image data and a text-to-speech unit for converting textual
15 data received into audible voice signals. Also the device may include a coincidence
16 detector to compare caller identifying data received with prestored data records.
17

18 In the functional block diagram in Figures 1a, 1b and 1c the paging receiver
19 1010 of the **[present invention] preferred embodiments** include[s] a receiving means
20 1012, a decoding-controlling means 1014, a memory means 1050, an audio amplifier
21 1040, a sound output means 1037, an input switch module 1042, an energy
22 conservation means 1020, and a converting means 1038. An antenna 1024 receives
23 paging information in the form of selective call signals, information comprised of speech
24 signals representative of a voice message and information comprised of caller
25 identification data for display or annunciation before, during or after annunciation of the
26 voice message. The antenna 1024 is coupled to receiving means 1012 that is subject to
27 the control of decoder 1014. The decoder 1014 not only controls receiving means 1012,
28 but may also operate receiving means 1012 on an intermittent basis to extend the life of
29 battery 1016 through energy conservation means 1020. The receiving means 1012

1 detects the presence of electromagnetic energy representing the paging information and
2 applies the information to the converting means such as coder-decoder 1038.
3 Operating under control from decoder 1014 (line 1045), the coder-decoder 1038
4 converts the received signals, such as an audio speech signal to a stream of binary bits
5 and reconverts the stored binary bits to a replica of the original received analog signal,
6 such as synthesized audio speech signals. A microcomputer 1026 functions as the
7 decoder 1014 and is comprised of a microprocessor 1028 and a read only memory
8 (ROM) 1030. ROM 1030 includes the necessary instructions to operate microprocessor
9 1028 to perform the functions as described below. The microcomputer 1026 uses
10 microprocessor 1028 as a software decoder for processing the received signals in real
11 time according to predetermined software routines. Such routines could provide for
12 detection of specific demarcation codes that distinguish audio or textual caller
13 identification data from audio voice messages for storage, annunciation and replay.

14
15 After the paging receiver is selectively identified, microprocessor 1028 accesses
16 ROM 1030 for determining the correct instructions contained in that memory for
17 processing the received signals, converting the analog voice signals to digital form,
18 storing the digital form of the voice signal, storing the caller identification data, displaying
19 the caller identification data on the display means 1077 and other functions. For
20 example, text to speech synthesis means 1075 can convert bit representations of textual
21 caller identification data received with voice data into synthesized voice signals to be
22 annunciated through audio amplifier 1040 and sound output means 1037 under the
23 direction of microprocessor 1026 and input switch module 1042. For example, upon
24 hearing a default alert signal from sound output means 1037 indicating receipt of a
25 message, the subscriber could press "PLAY" 1056 and the synthesized voice
26 annunciation of caller identification information would be retrieved from the memory
27 means and annunciated, such as "John Smith - 555-1212 called". Then upon a second
28 depression of the "PLAY" button, the stored voice message may be retrieved from the
29 memory means 1050 and replayed for the subscriber. In another embodiment, caller

1 identification data received could be displayed on a display means 1077 when a
2 message was received, or in response to scrolling through a list of messages previously
3 received and selected using key input selector 1061, touch-screen input from display
4 means 1077 or other keyboard selections and software as is known in the art.

5 Upon selection of a particular caller identifying record, the microcomputer 1026
6 could retrieve the corresponding voice message from the memory means 1050 for
7 annunciation. Additionally under the direction of the microcomputer 1026, a
8 coincidence detector [76] 1097 could be employed to compare caller identifying data
9 with prestored data records in memory means 1050. Upon determining a matching
10 record, microcomputer 1026 could cause caller identifying data and / or any associated
11 record or annunciation alert to be automatically displayed on display means 1077 or
12 annunciated using sound output means 1037. Additionally, key input module 1042
13 could include a synthesize mode key 1078 in which textual data entered by keyboard
14 1053, stored on memory means 1050 or received from receiving means 1012 could be
15 selectively converted from text-to-speech for annunciation.

16
17 In the illustrated embodiments, the coder-decoder 1038 (hereinafter referred to
18 as CODEC) provides for the digital-to-analog and analog-to-digital conversion of speech
19 signals. The CODEC 1038, such as an adaptive delta modulator, converts or encodes
20 an audio input signal (line 44) to a digital data stream (line 1046) for storage in memory
21 means 1050, and reconverts or decodes a digital data stream (line 1048) to reconstruct
22 an audio signal (line 1021). Under control of decoder 1014, the CODEC's digital output
23 is stored in memory 1050 and retrieved on line 1048 to reconstruct a synthesized audio
24 signal on line 1021, thus closely replicating the real time audio signal in both amplitude
25 and frequency. One example of such a coder-decoder is disclosed by N.S. Jayant in
26 the publication "Adaptive Delta Modulation with a One-Bit Memory", Bell System
27 Technical Journal, Vol. 49, No. 2, Mar. 1970. To conserve power, most of the CODEC
28 1038 is turned off when there are no read/write operations to the memory. The
29 receiving means 1012 is further coupled by line 1023 to an audio amplifier 1040.

1 Operating in response to decoder 1014, the real time audio signal on line 1023 is
2 applied to audio amplifier 1040 which supplies the analog signals to sound output
3 means 1037. In particular, decoder 1014 controls audio amplifier 1040 via line 1062 to
4 apply either the real time audio signal on line 1023 or the synthesized audio signal on
5 line 1021 to sound output means 1037.
6

7 Decoder 1014 is coupled to memory [means] 1050 which serves to include
8 information for decoding the received information and for storing information received
9 from CODEC 1038. The CODEC 1038 provides the analog-to-digital conversion in
10 memory 1050 as digital voice messages. In this embodiment each digital voice
11 message is stored in conjunction with associated caller identifying data. As previously
12 described, such data could be textual, synthesized audio or graphical data. This
13 associated caller identifying data can be used to selectively access voice message
14 records before selecting a particular voice record for replay. A plurality of digital voice
15 messages can be stored in memory 1050. The decoder 1014 functions to alert the
16 paging user, and to store, recall, and playback voice messages, as well as to store,
17 recall, and playback caller identification data.
18

19 The paging receiver of Figures 1b and 1c has a capacity of storing voice
20 messages and providing them to audio amplifier 1040 according to the state of a
21 plurality of inputs, such as the state of the control switches of input module 1042, the
22 state of annunciation instructions ascertained by coincidence detector [76] 1097 and
23 prestored data records contained in memory [means 77] 1050, and particular encoded
24 annunciation instructions received by receiving means 1012 that comprise part of the
25 message data.
26

27 A switch interface 1018 provides input capability for control switches 1054-1078
28 and keyboard 1053. Display means 1077 also may employ a switch interface means to
29 allow for touch screen selection for data input, menu selection and the like. Illustratively,

1 control switch 1054 is an on/off switch for controlling power from battery 1016. Control
2 switch 1056 is a play switch for playing back voice messages previously digitized and
3 stored in memory 1050. Control switch 1058 is a reset switch to reset the paging
4 receiver system and to monitor any real time audio signals currently being received.
5 Control switch 1060 is a mode switch for operating the decoder in one of three modes.
6 These modes are the silent, push to listen (PTL) and normal modes.

7
8 The battery 1016 is shown connected to decoder 1014 through switch interface
9 1018. Battery 1016 provides power to decoder 1014 through an energy conservation
10 means 1020, such as a DC to DC converter. Decoder 1014 is additionally connected to
11 a code memory 1022 which stores predetermined address information to which the
12 paging receiver is responsive. Code memory 1022 can also store such information
13 as the sampling rate for digitizing the received audio messages. Output 1062 from
14 decoder 1014 controls whether real time audio signals on line 1023 from receiving
15 means 1012 or synthesized audio signals on line 1021 from CODEC 1038 are applied
16 to audio speaker 1037. Communication between receiving means 1012 and decoder
17 1014 is achieved via line 1047. Selective call signals for the decoder 1014 are received
18 by receiving means 1012 and passed to decoder 1014 through line 1047.

19
20 The operation of the paging receiver shown in Figure 1b is such that the receiving
21 means 1012 is capable of receiving messages in any of several message formats
22 through antenna 1024. The decoder 1014 responds to the received signals to analyze
23 the data and select one of several decoding schemes for appropriately decoding the
24 incoming information received by receiving means 1012. As is well known with paging
25 devices, the resulting decoded signal is tested for comparison with a designated pager
26 address contained in code memory 1022. On detecting correspondence between the
27 received and decoded signal and the address in code memory 1022, the decoder 1014
28 instructs the CODEC 1038 to digitize the real time analog voice signals that follows for
29 storage in one memory 1050. The **[inventions] preferred embodiments** described

1 herein are not specifically limited to analog systems but could also be adapted to a
2 digital stored voice paging system in which voice or image data was transmitted in a
3 compressed or uncompressed format. An alert output signal may be produced by the
4 decoder 1014 to generate an alert indication to the pager user that a message has been
5 received and stored. In particular, the alert output signal from the decoder 1014 is
6 supplied to audio amplifier 1040 to produce an audible signal from the sound output
7 means 1037 indicative of receipt of a message. Alternatively the decoder 1014 can
8 supply alert signals or data to audio amplifier 1040 and sound output means 1037
9 and/or display means 1077 in response to alert output instructions contained in
10 prestored data records in the memory means 1050 used in conjunction with coincidence
11 detector [76] 1097, or in response to alert instructions or caller identifying data received
12 as part of the message from receiving means 1012 via line 1047.

13
14 If the user responds to the message alert, the user has the ability to hear the
15 message in real time, depending upon the position of mode switch 1060, or has the
16 ability to hear only the associated caller identifying data until the play key 1056 is
17 depressed again. In another alternative embodiment, calls received which are
18 determined to be confidential by the coincidence detector [76] 1097 and memory
19 means comparing against the received caller identifying data can be inhibited from
20 playback until such time as a personal identification code is entered by the user using
21 the keyboard 1053 or display means 1077 for example. In another embodiment, the
22 message received could include a code with the message data that creates a
23 confidential condition such that a personal identification code must be entered before
24 the particular message can be annunciated. Alternatively, the user could require all
25 messages received to require entry of a personal identification code. Such security
26 features are particularly useful in case the user wishes to prevent other persons in the
27 immediate vicinity from inadvertently hearing confidential messages, or in the case
28 where the paging receiver is lost.

1 If the mode switch is in the normal mode, upon receipt of a voice message, the
2 user hears an alert followed by the voice message. Simultaneously, the message is
3 stored into a storage area in the memory means 1050, depending upon the bit rate of
4 the CODEC 1038.

5
6 Referring to Figure 1c, **[a second] another** embodiment **[of the present**
7 **invention]** illustrates a sound input means 1081 which may have an integrated
8 microphone 1082 or a releasably connectable sound input means 1083. **No wireless**
9 **input for downloadable ring tones** This allows sound data such as spoken voice or
10 personal computer files such as .WAV files to be uploaded to the paging receiver device
11 1010 for storage in the memory means 1050 for alert annunciation. Such custom
12 annunciations could be generated in response to particular caller identifying data
13 received as determined by the coincidence detector **[76] 1097** and prestored data
14 records in memory means 1050, or could be stored in code memory for default alert
15 annunciation signals upon receipt of a message or a particular condition within the
16 paging receiver 1010 controlled **[yy] by** microcomputer 1026. Input switch module 1042
17 includes a "RECORD" function key 1079 which can be used to start recording or
18 uploading of any sound through the sound input means 1081 when the paging receiver
19 1010 is in a sound recording/uploading mode.

20
21 In addition, Figure 1c includes a DTMF tone decoder means 1080 which can
22 decode DTMF audio signals received as part of the message data from receiving means
23 1012. The audio signals received can be supplied to the decoder means 1080 and
24 corresponding numeric textual data can be displayed on the display means 1077 or
25 supplied to a coincidence detector **[76] 1097** for comparison against prestored data in
26 memory means 1050. Corresponding matching data records can then be annunciated
27 and/or displayed prior to annunciation of the voice message.

28
29 In Figure 1d is shown an autodialing type paging receiver in which DTMF data

1 received can be applied to a DTMF tone decoder and text to speech generator in a
2 similar manner as described hereinbefore. In this embodiment, the **[inventions]**
3 **pr ferred embodiments** herein are especially useful in that a display member is not
4 necessary for the user to determine the identity of the calling party as the telephone
5 number may be annunciated. Such a device may be used in a stored voice paging
6 system, in which DTMF entries are manually entered in conjunction with a voice
7 message for transmission to an autodialing type paging receiver. The DTMF tones can
8 be annunciated as voice representations of DTMF digits received. For example, if the
9 DTMF tone detector receives the dual tone frequencies of 1209 Hz and 697 Hz then the
10 text to speech generator will receive instructions from the tone decoder and the
11 synthesized voice annunciation "ONE" will be heard. Different corresponding synthetic
12 voice messages can be stored in ROM in the text to speech generator for each of the
13 various DTMF tone combinations and generated in response to a depression of the
14 "SPEAK" button or automatically generated in response to receipt of a message when
15 decoded by the DTMF tone decoder. The DTMF signals received may be stored in a
16 memory as DTMF audio signals for playback through a sound signal generator and
17 speaker or may be converted to digital representations of the DTMF signals for
18 application to a DTMF generator (not shown) for later redial.

19
20 In one preferred embodiment, textual caller identifying data such as name and
21 telephone number information is received by the receiving means along with any
22 associated voice message in a stored voice paging receiver. The microprocessor can
23 apply the received caller id data to a text to speech unit and display means for
24 annunciation and display. Each subsequent message received can be stored in a
25 memory means contained in a detachable memory as described in Figure 5a. The
26 detachable memory means may be a PCMCIA memory card that may allow transfer of
27 voice messages received from a voice mail center for subsequent archiving in a
28 personal computer or the like.

1 The stored voice paging receiver can also have a detachable keyboard or other
2 input means to allow for entry of memory records that can be used by a coincidence
3 detector within the pager, as in a copending application . Upon receipt of caller
4 identifying data, the coincidence detector can compare the caller identifying data against
5 prestored memory records to annunciate or display associated caller identifying data
6 prior to annunciation of the voice message received.

7
8 In Figure 3a is shown the prior art method of receiving and transmitting a voice
9 message to a stored voice paging receiver. In Figure 3b is shown an improvement over
10 the prior art method in which caller identifying data is received, stored and associated
11 with a voice message for transmittal to a stored voice paging receiver.

12
13 In Figures 4a through 4e are shown various alternative embodiments in which
14 caller id data can be utilized within a stored voice paging receiver.

15
16 For example, in Figure 4a when a stored voice paging receiver receives a
17 message, a coincidence detector can generate a prestored audio alert. First, the called
18 party enters textual data and a corresponding audio announcement into the pager in
19 advance. In this case, the number 555-1212 could be entered by a data entry means
20 into the pager, and a voice entry such as "home office" could be spoken into a sound
21 input accessory, for storage in the pager memory. If the caller id data such as 555-1212
22 were received, a coincidence detector would determine a match with the previously
23 entered number and the previously entered audio alert "home office" would be heard by
24 the called party. Upon depression of a play key, the voice message could be heard.
25 "unknown caller", the caller id data could be displayed and upon depression of a play
26 button, the voice message could then be heard.

27
28 In Figure 4b is shown another alternative embodiment in which a voice pager
29 allows a called party to associate certain pin numbers with calling parties. For example,

1 some callers may typically be of a personal or confidential nature. The playback of
2 messages from these callers may require entry of a PIN code prior to annunciation of
3 any message. In this case, a coincidence detector could be employed which analyzes
4 caller id data received and compares against a prestored caller list. When a match is
5 determined, particular caller messages would not be heard until the proper PIN code
6 was entered by the calling party. When the correct code was entered, the caller id data
7 could be annunciated or displayed until such time as the play key was depressed. Of
8 course, the caller id data could be inhibited from display or annunciation until such time
9 as the proper pin code was entered by the called party. In this case then, a default alert
10 signal could be generated in response to receipt of a message that did not indicate the
11 identity of the calling party until the pin code was entered properly. Alternatively, the
12 prompt for the pin code entry could be generated by the pager after the receipt, display
13 and annunciation of caller id data but prior to annunciation of the voice message from
14 the calling party.

15
16 In Figure 4c is shown another alternative embodiment in which a voice pager
17 receives DTMF audio signals along with a voice message. The voice pager could
18 distinguish DTMF signals from the voice message data by use of a DTMF tone decoder
19 means within the pager. The DTMF tone decoder could generate a corresponding
20 textual or synthesized voice alert corresponding to the caller id of the calling party. In
21 addition, the decoded DTMF signals could be employed with a coincidence detector to
22 display or annunciate previously stored matching data records as previously described
23 in Figure 4a. Further, the received audio DTMF signals received could be used in place
24 of a more conventional DTMF generator to generate a corresponding dialing signal for
25 call back to the calling party.

26
27 In Figure 4d is shown another alternative embodiment in which a voice pager can
28 utilize a text-to-speech unit within the pager to annunciate textual caller identifying data
29 received.

1
2 In Figure 4e is shown another alternative embodiment in which a stored voice
3 pager can operate in one of three different modes: Announce mode in which a
4 coincidence detector is employed against all caller id data received automatically upon
5 receipt; silent mode in which a coincidence detector is employed against all caller id
6 data received only upon depression of a play key; and a broadcast mode in which caller
7 id data is displayed and/or annunciated and the voice data is annunciated automatically,
8 without use of any coincidence detector. For example upon receipt of a message when
9 in the announce mode, a coincidence detector could be employed before an alert signal
10 was generated. Upon detection or non detection of a matching record, the appropriate
11 alert signal would be generated and the unit would play the associated voice message
12 upon depression of the play key. Upon receipt of a message when in silent mode, the
13 caller id data could be displayed but not annunciated. When the called party scrolled
14 through the messages received by viewing the display of various caller id data
15 associated with voice messages, he could then press a play key and the coincidence
16 detector could generate an appropriate alert signal. If the play key was depressed
17 again, the voice message could be heard by the called party. Alternatively, a single
18 depression of the play key could cause the annunciation of the caller id data and
19 subsequent annunciation of the voice message. If the pager were in broadcast mode,
20 the caller id data could be displayed and the voice message received would be
21 broadcast to be heard by the called party.
22

23 In Figure 5a, caller identifying data such as name and number data, particular
24 voice or sound data for message alerting, pin code data, iconographic data such as
25 logos or meaningful graphic images, photo images of a calling party or other data is
26 stored in a memory means that is integral to or detachable from the paging receiver.
27 This data could be transferred from a PCMCIA memory card attached to the pager, or
28 an integrated memory within the pager that received data from an input means such as
29 an infrared, serial or parallel connection with another device, or a data input means

1 integrated in the pager such as a touch screen, sound input accessory, keyboard, or
2 some other means.

3
4 In Figure 5b is shown one embodiment of a display member 2308) within a
5 stored voice paging receiver (2307) in which caller identifying information can be
6 scrolled through prior to selecting a particular message for annunciation. Such a display
7 could be of the type known as a touch screen which allowed also for programming of
8 softkeys for various functions to be performed such as scrolling, data entry, message
9 selection and the like **[as for example in]** . The particular urgency of a message
10 received could be indicated on such a display by a flashing iconographic indicator
11 (2301), the caller id name and number data (2304) could be displayed, the duration of
12 the voice message received could be shown (2303) and the time the message was
13 received could be displayed (2302). In such cases where blocked caller id indicators
14 were received, default message such as "blocked" (2306) or "unknown" could be
15 displayed.

16
17 In Figure 5c is shown a caller id memory address register in which caller id data
18 associated with voice messages received can be stored for later recall and display in a
19 stored voice pager. This memory for the caller id data could be contiguous or separate
20 from the memory used for the voice messages received and could be applied to a
21 display as described previously. The voice message stored in memory can be
22 annunciated after selection of a displayed caller identifying record by the called party.

23
24 **In addition, fax header or E-mail information received at the message center**
25 **could be used alternatively as caller identifying information. Figures 6a and 6b**
26 **summarize one embodiment of this concept. The message center could, for**
27 **example, upon detection of a CNG tone, store conventional fax header**
28 **information received for retransmission to a paging center or for transmission to**
29 **a personal communicator directly from a paging transmitter integral or directly**

1 connected to the message center. The fax header or Email information could be
2 transmitted to a personal communicator device that has prestored caller data
3 contained in a memory along with a comparing means. The caller data could
4 include a variety of information corresponding to frequent callers, including
5 name, address, telephone number, fax number, and E mail addresses for each
6 calling party. Additionally, a prestored voice annunciation corresponding to the
7 identity of a caller or a prestored video image representative of the calling party
8 could also be included in each caller record. Upon detection of a coincidence
9 between the fax or E mail or other data received, the other associated data from
10 the corresponding data record could be made available to the called party.
11
12

13 [Additional art incorporated herein by reference includes the following:
14

15 Brother Intellifax 780 MC Owners manual]
16

17 As is shown in Figure 10, telephone 2563, from which a calling party
18 initiates communications, interacts with switch 2559, host computer 2557,
19 telephone trunk interface 2553, and voice processing system 2555 in a
20 messaging system. As is further shown in RCC terminal 2551 is a
21 communication to dialing pager receiver 2591. Upon receipt of a message at
22 dialing pager receiver 2591 of caller ID or other data an acoustic or other dialing
23 signal can be used to initiate communication with TEL 1 2561 through switch
24 2559 to establish communication with TEL 2 2563 between the called party and
25 the original calling party.
26

27 Figure 11 provides a simplified block diagram of a telephone network, in
28 accordance with the prior art, which will be utilized to describe some fundamentals of
29 telephony which may be necessary to understand the [pres nt] th inventions herein.

1 As is shown, telephone network **9** can be utilized to allow call-originator **11** to utilize
2 telephone **13** to place a telephone call to call-receiver **15**, which utilizes telephone **17** to
3 receive such a call. Fairly elaborate switching networks **19** and **21** connect call-
4 originator **11** and call-originator **15** to central office **23** of telephone network **9**.

5
6 In central office **23**, there is a source of electrical current, identified as talk battery
7 **25**, which is utilized to determine whether or not a particular telephone (i.e., telephone
8 **13** or **15**) is in the "on-hook" or "off-hook" condition. If the handset of a particular
9 telephone is lifted from the cradle of the telephone, the telephone goes from an on-hook
10 condition to an off-hook condition. When a particular telephone is in an off-hook
11 condition, dial tone generator **27** at central office **23** of telephone network **9** is utilized to
12 generate an audible dial tone which indicates to the telephone operator that an outgoing
13 call may be initiated. For example, call-originator **11** may lift the handset from the cradle
14 of telephone **13**, and receive an audible dial tone through the operation of dial tone
15 generator **27** and central office **23**.

16
17 After call-originator **11** dials the telephone number of call-receiver **15**, ring
18 generator **29** at central office **23** generates a plurality of ring signals which are sent
19 through switching network **21** to telephone **17** to alert call-receiver **15** that a call is
20 incoming. Once call-receiver **15** lifts his or her handset off of the cradle of telephone **17**,
21 voice path **31** is established between call-originator **11** and call-receiver **15**.

22
23 In accordance with current Bell standards, caller-identification information may be
24 transmitted, automatically, between call-originator **11** and call-receiver **15**, through
25 telephone network **9**, in a manner which will be described below with reference to
26 **Figures 12a, 12b, and 12c**. In the United States of America, in accordance with the
27 Bellcore Specification No. 220, the transmission must occur between the first and
28 second rings. In **Figure 12a**, such caller-identification information signals transmitted to
29 call-receiver **15** are depicted in simplified form, with caller-identification information **39**

1 occurring between first ring **35** and second ring **37**. The Bellcore Specification requires
2 that caller-identification information **39** occur at least 500 milliseconds after first ring **35**
3 ceases. Thus, the signal which represents the caller-identification information will begin
4 transmission one-half of one second, or longer, after the termination of first ring **35**.
5 Caller-identification information **39** is transmitted serially, utilizing a frequency-shift-
6 keying technique, which is well known in the prior art.

7
8 The Bellcore Specification also requires that the transmission of caller-
9 identification information **39** end at least 427 milliseconds prior to the commencement of
10 second ring **37**. Typically, there is a four second interval between first ring **35** and
11 second ring **37**, so a significant amount of time is available for the communication of
12 caller-identification information. Altogether, there is available a period of 2,570
13 milliseconds for the transmission of caller-identification information, not including pauses
14 required by the Bellcore Specification (such pauses or periods of silence are required at
15 the beginning and end of the message). At 1,200 baud, this message interval is
16 sufficient to transmit 3,084 bits, or 308 bytes.

17
18 The blocks of data which make-up the caller-identification information **39** is set
19 forth in block diagram form in **Figure 12b**. The first component of the caller-
20 identification information is a synchronization signal **41** which comprises a channel
21 seizure signal having a duration of 250 milliseconds of frequency-shift-keying encoding
22 of a bit pattern of alternating zeros and ones. Such a synchronization signal is utilized to
23 provide a recognizable pattern to alert applicable caller-identification decoding
24 equipment that caller-identification information follows. Pre-message pause **43** follows
25 synchronization signal **41**, and has a duration of 150 milliseconds, plus or minus 25
26 milliseconds. The purpose of such a pre-message pause **43** is to condition the receiver
27 for the data which follows.

28
29 Next, message-type identifier **45** follows synchronization signal **41**. Message

1 type identifier **45** is typically one byte of data which identifies the type of caller-
2 identification message which is being sent. There are two basic types of caller-
3 identification messages, including: (1) only numeric data, which identifies the telephone
4 number for the source of the telephone call; and (2) numeric data, which identifies a
5 telephone number for the source of the telephone call, along with hexadecimal
6 representation of alphabetic characters that contain the directory name associated with
7 the telephone number of the source telephone. In accordance with the Bellcore
8 Standard, 04 hexadecimal identifies a single message caller-identification message,
9 while 80 hexadecimal identifies a caller-identification message which includes both a
10 telephone number and a name.

11
12 Next, message byte count **47** provides an indication of the total length of the
13 caller-identification information. This is important because the directory name
14 associated with the source telephone number will have a different length for each
15 particular name.

16
17 Thereafter, sub-message type **49** identifies the type of submessage which is
18 transmitted with the caller-identification information. Sub-message link **51** identifies the
19 length of the sub-message which follows.

20
21 Message **53** consists of information which is described in more detail below with
22 respect to **Figure 12c**. Message **53** is followed by checksum byte **55** which, in
23 accordance with the prior art techniques, provides a checksum total to ensure that data
24 received has not been lost or altered in any way during the transmission. The receiving
25 unit of a caller-identification decoder generates a checksum in response to the entire
26 caller-identification bit stream, and thereafter compares this checksum with checksum
27 byte **55**. If these checksums match, then no bits were lost in the transmission; however,
28 if the checksum generated by the caller-identification decoder does not match checksum
29 byte **55** received at the decoder, then one or more data bits may have been lost in the

1 transmission, and the information may be unreliable or unusable.

2
3 The final component of a caller-identification message is post-message pause
4 **57**, which is a quiescent period prior to second ring **37** of **Figure 12a**.

5
6 With reference now to **Figure 12c**, message **53** will be described in greater
7 detail. The first eight bits of the message include month bits "MM", day bits "DD", hour
8 bits "HH", and minute bits "MM". These eight bits provide the month and date, along
9 with the hour and minute, in military time, of the telephone call. Note that no information
10 is provided regarding the year.

11
12 The next portion of message **53** is either (1) a ten digit telephone number, or (2)
13 a single digit which identifies that caller-identification information is either (a) not
14 available, or (b) has been blocked to maintain the caller's privacy.

15
16 If caller-identification information is not available, the ASCII character "0" is
17 transmitted. If the caller-identification information has been blocked for reasons of
18 privacy, the character P is transmitted. However, if the caller-identification information is
19 neither unavailable nor blocked, then a ten digit bit stream follows. The first three bits,
20 "AAA" identify the area code; the next three bits, "PPP", identifying the prefix; and the
21 final four bits, "EEEE", identify the exchange. For example, if the source phone number
22 is 702-731-1113, then AAA = 702, PPP = 731, and EEEE = 1113.

23
24 The next portion of message **53** is caller-identification information which identifies
25 the name associated with the particular preceding telephone number. If this information
26 is unavailable, a single character "0" is provided. If this information is blocked for
27 reasons of privacy, a single character "P" is provided. However, if this information is
28 both available and not blocked, a multi-bit string follows which sets forth a name
29 associated with the particular preceding telephone number (for example, "John Doe").

1
2 Therefore, considered broadly, caller-identification information may be solely data
3 which identifies a telephone number associated with the telephone unit utilized to place
4 a call, or the telephone number associated with the telephone unit utilized to place the
5 call in combination with alphabetic characters identifying a name associated with that
6 particular number in a telephone directory (i.e., a telephone **[director]** directory data
7 base). In either event, whether the directory name is provided or not, this information
8 can be considered to be the "caller-identification information." The particular details of
9 the caller-identification standards in the United States of America are set forth in the
10 publications of the Bell Communications Research Laboratories, which are identified as
11 "Bellcore", and include (1) Technical Reference No. TR-TSY-00032, issued November
12 1, 1986, and entitled "CLASS(sm) Feature: Bulk Calling Line Information"; (2) Technical
13 Reference No. TR-TSY-000030, issued January 1, 1990, entitled "CLASS(sm) Feature:
14 Calling Number Delivery"; and (3) Technical Reference No. TANWT-001188, issued
15 March 1, 1991, entitled "CLASS(sm) Calling Name Delivery and Related Features
16 Generic Requirements"; all of which are incorporated herewith by reference as if fully set
17 forth.
18

19 **Figure 13** depicts one embodiment **[of the present invention]** wherein numeric
20 paging network **61** is utilized to receive caller-identification information via interaction
21 with telephone network **9** in response to call-originator **11** communicating through
22 telephone network **9** with central office **59** of numeric paging network **61**. In this
23 configuration, numeric paging network **61** may be utilized to transmit the numeric
24 portions of caller-identification information, and not the alphanumeric portions. **Figure**
25 **13** includes telephone network **9**, which includes components identical to those
26 discussed above in connection with **Figure 11**, with the only difference being that a
27 page request telephone call is received by call receiver **15**, which is located within
28 numeric paging network central office **59**. Between the first and second rings received
29 by call receiver **15**, the caller-identification information is routed through telephone **17** to

1 decoder 63.

2
3 Decoder 63 comprises a conventional caller-identification decoder capable of
4 receiving the frequency-shift-keyed caller-identification signal, and decoding it into a bit
5 stream representative of the information described above in connection with **Figures**
6 **12b** and **12c**. The portion of information corresponding to the telephone number of
7 particular telephone 13 being utilized by call originator 11 is provided as an input to
8 decoder 63. Additionally, telephone 17 is utilized to receive any optional numeric
9 message which is input by call-originator 11 and transmitted over voice path 31 during
10 the time interval provided.

11
12 The decoded numeric information which corresponds to the telephone number of
13 the telephone utilized by call-originator 11, and any numeric message input by call-
14 originator 11, are assembled in message buffer 65, which pushes the serial bit stream to
15 transmitter 67 in accordance with a predefined protocol. The **[present] inventions** may
16 utilize the predefined communication protocol identified as the Post Office Code
17 Standardization Advisory Group (POCSAG) code. Such a code comports with the
18 formats provided by the International Committee CCIR, which has standardized
19 message coding for radio frequency transmissions. Both the POCSAG code and CCIR
20 standards are well known by those skilled in the art, and both are incorporated herein by
21 reference as if fully set forth, but are not essential to the main concepts of the **[present**
22 **invention] preferred embodiments**.

23
24 Transmitter 67 provides a radio frequency communication link 69 which
25 communicates information from numeric paging network central office 59 to personal
26 communication device 71. Personal communications device 61 may be a receive-only
27 device, such as a paging device, or a more sophisticated bi-directional communication
28 device, such as a personal communication device or personal digital assistant, such as
29 the personal digital assistant sold under the trademark "[Mackintosh] Macintosh

1 Newton" by Apple Computer, or the product sold by AT&T under the trademark "EO".
2 Preferably, personal communication device 71 at least includes display 73, which is
3 utilized to display information based, at least in-part, upon information contained within a
4 database resident within personal communication device 71, or in-part upon information
5 transmitted over radio frequency communication link 69 from central office 59 of numeric
6 paging network 61.

7
8 **Figure 14** provides a block diagram representation of another embodiment [of
9 **the present invention**] wherein alphanumeric paging network 75 is utilized to receive
10 caller-identification information. Such caller-identification information which may be
11 received includes numeric information corresponding to the telephone number of
12 telephone 13 utilized by call originator 11 to engage alphanumeric paging network 75,
13 and alphanumeric text which identifies the "entity" listed in a telephone directory (i.e., a
14 database) as the owner of the particular telephone number assigned to telephone 13.
15 Call-receiver 15 receives the incoming call through switching network 21 on behalf of
16 alphanumeric paging network 75. Call-receiver 15 is located within alphanumeric paging
17 network central office 77.

18
19 The caller-identification information is routed from telephone 17 to decoder 79,
20 where it is converted from the frequency-shift-key format transmitted within telephone
21 network 9, to an acceptable binary or hexadecimal format. Such decoded caller-
22 identification information includes numeric caller-identification information which
23 corresponds to telephone 13 utilized by call-originator 11 to engage alphanumeric
24 paging network 75, as well as alphanumeric textual information which identifies the
25 "entity", as listed within the telephone directory database, which has ownership of that
26 particular telephone number, along with other additional formatting information which
27 was described above in connection with **Figures 12a, 12b, and 12c**.

28
29 This decoded caller-identification information is pushed from decoder 79 to

1 message buffer 81, and may also be provided to automated checking routine 83.
2 Automated checking routine 83 receives caller-identification information and formulates
3 a textual or synthesized voice query, which may then be utilized to communicate with
4 call-originator 11 to verify the telephone number for telephone 13 (which was derived
5 from the caller-identification information) as well as the "entity" identity (which was also
6 derived from the caller-identification information). The query may include the following
7 questions:

8
9 (1) The caller-identification information provided to us through the telephone
10 network indicates that the telephone number from which you are placing this call is AAA-
11 PPP-EEEE; please depress your telephone key pad number "1" if this information is
12 correct, or depress telephone key pad "2" if this information is incorrect.

13
14 (2) Your previous response has indicated to us that the telephone number
15 provided through the caller-identification is incorrect. Please enter your correct
16 telephone number at this time beginning with the area code.

17
18 (3) The caller-identification information provided to us through the telephone
19 network indicates that this telephone number is assigned to "NNNNNNN"; please
20 depress "1" if this information is correct. If this information is not correct, please hold for
21 an operator.

22
23 (4) Please stand by for an operator if you desire to leave a detailed message;
24 otherwise, please hang-up and your page will be directed to the intended recipient which
25 you should now identify by depressing the keys on your telephone key pad, with the
26 area code being entered first.

27
28 (5) If no detailed message is desired, hang-up and your page will be directed
29 to area code "AAA", telephone number "PPP-EEEE". Thank you.

1
2 After this automated verification of the caller-identification number occurs, human
3 operator **85** may be made available to call-originator **11** to take a detailed alphanumeric
4 textual message. Human operator **85** keys a particular message into message buffer **81**
5 prior to transmission of the message by transmitter **87**, via radio frequency
6 communication link **89**, to remotely located personal communication device **91** which
7 includes display **93**. Upon receipt of the page, personal communication device **91**
8 generates information for display in display **93** based at least in part on at least one of:
9 (1) information communicated via radio frequency communication link **89**; or (2)
10 information contained within a database maintained within personal communication
11 device **91**.
12

13 While **Figures 13** and **14** have been described with reference to a numeric
14 paging network and an alphanumeric paging network, the **[present invention]**
15 **preferred embodiments** may be utilized with an alphanumeric paging network which
16 allows for communication of a variety of page-originator generated messages, in a
17 variety of formats. Such messages may be provided to the portable personal
18 communication device in a variety of formats, including:
19

20 (1) textual information which include either numeric only, or alphanumeric
21 data;
22

23 (2) digitized voice or audio information which may be communicated in analog
24 form through the telephone network to the central office of the alphanumeric paging
25 network, where the information is then digitized, and transmitted in a digital format
26 which, upon reception, may be reconstructed to define an analog voice or audio signal
27 which drives an audio output device resident in the personal communication device; or
28

29 (3) digitized image information, such as a video image or an iconographic

1 representation of information, which may be transmitted over the voice channel of the
2 telephone network and received at the central office of the alphanumeric paging
3 network, where it is then digitized, and transmitted to the remotely located personal
4 communication device, where the digital information is reconstructed into an image
5 which may be displayed on a display resident in the personal communication device.

6 Given this variety of message-format inputs, the personal communication device
7 can provide an equally impressive array of display options. Textual input (including
8 numeric and alphanumeric characters) can be displayed in a conventional manner on a
9 simple and relatively inexpensive alphanumeric LCD display. Additionally, text which is
10 provided as input to the personal communication device via the radio frequency
11 communication link, may be utilized with a voice synthesizer to provide synthesized
12 voice as an output from an audio output device resident in, or coupled to, the personal
13 communication device.

14
15 Alternatively, an alphanumeric or numeric input supplied to the personal
16 communication device may be utilized to recall one of a plurality of prestored audio
17 output messages. For example, a table may be provided which identifies particular
18 alphanumeric codes as corresponding to particular audio output messages. The binary
19 characters "1111" may correspond to the audio output message "phone home now".
20 Alternatively, a different code, such as "001," may correspond to the audio output
21 message "phone your office now". The prerecorded and predetermined audio output
22 messages may define a plurality of messages which alert the page-receiving
23 communicant that a page has been received from a particular source, and indicating a
24 particular urgency or requesting a level of diligence in response thereto.

25
26 Of course, as another option, digitized audio or voice data may be reconstituted
27 into analog format to provide an audio output corresponding almost directly to the audio
28 input provided by the page-originating communicant over the telephone lines to the
29 central office of the paging network.

1
2 Digitized images may also be transmitted to the personal communication device
3 in this manner for display on a more elaborate display, such as a personal computer-
4 type display. Finally, digitized audio may be provided as an input to the personal
5 communication device, which, in turn, may be utilized to generate a combination of
6 signals, which may include an audible signal, or a preselected image, such as an icon,
7 which may be placed on the display.
8

9 **Figure 15** provides one example of the utilization of a numeric message code,
10 which is input at the personal communication device, to generate a textual message
11 which provides, to the page-receiving communicant, information which allows him or her
12 to respond in an appropriate manner to the page. As is shown in **Figure 15**, the
13 message code number column on the left corresponds to a textual message code on
14 the right. Receipt of the "**1" message code results in the display of the message "call
15 when you return" on the personal communication device. The receipt of the message
16 code "**2" results in the display of the textual message "voice mail received" on the
17 personal communication device. Receipt of the "**3" message code results in the display
18 of the textual message "fax mail received" on the personal communication device.
19 Receipt of the "**4" message code results in the display of the textual message
20 "electronic mail received" on the personal communication device. Receipt of the "**5"
21 message code at the personal communication device results in the display of the textual
22 message "image data received". Receipt of the "**6" message code results in the display
23 of the textual message "other data received" on the personal communication device.
24 Finally, receipt of the "**911" message code at the personal communication device
25 results in the display of the textual message "call immediately".
26

27 Of course, other various preselected and predefined textual messages are
28 possible. To facilitate the use of this system, the paging network may provide a
29 synthesized-voice and keypad driven exchange between the call-originating

1 communicant and the central office of the paging network. Such an interface may be
2 utilized until the various page-originating communicants learn one or more of the most
3 useful message codes. After such message codes are learned, a user may thereafter
4 bypass the synthesized-voice menu. Preferably, the information provided to the page-
5 receiving communicant is stored in memory within the personal communication device
6 for review at a later time. Typically, the personal communication device includes
7 memory buffers sufficient to hold a selected number of messages received via the
8 paging network, and other corresponding data.

9
10 **Figure 16** provides a view of one way in which the data received from the page-
11 originating communicant may be organized. Such organized data may be stored at
12 either the central office of the paging network or within the memory allocated for such
13 purpose within the personal communication device. As illustrated, a plurality of locations
14 are provided for storing caller-identification information (i.e., locations in the first
15 column), DTMF data which may be entered by the page-originating communicant by
16 utilizing the telephone handset (the second column), and caller message data which
17 may be provided by the page-originating communicant through utilization of a variety of
18 **[messaging] messaging** techniques, but in this example, an alphanumeric
19 **[messaging] messaging** technique, such as that discussed above with respect to
20 **Figure 15.**

21
22 **Figures 17, 18, 19a, 19b, and 19c** provide views of three alternative physical
23 configurations for the personal communication device **[in accordance with the present**
24 **invention]**. Personal communication device **101** of **Figure 17** allows for two-way
25 communication with the paging network. Personal communication device **101** includes
26 display **103**, which is preferably a display of the type utilized in portable personal
27 computers, such as notebook computers. Display **103** may be utilized to display
28 information, such as caller-identification information **105**. Caller-identification
29 information **105** may include an alphabetic identification of the name associated with the

1 telephone number transmitted with the caller-identification information, or may include
2 optional message 107 input by the page-originating communicant during the request for
3 a page via the telephone network.
4

5 In Figure 17 is shown telephone number data 108 extracted from data
6 shown as in Figure 22 which is displayed on display 103.
7

8 As is shown, other information 109, such as an address or a phone number 108
9 associated with the page-initiating communicant 105, may be retrieved from a database
10 in the memory of the personal communication device and displayed along with the
11 caller-identification information on display 103.
12

13 Personal communication device 101 of Figure 17 also includes keyboard 111
14 and graphical pointing device 113, such as a touch pen, which may be utilized to select
15 icons, menu buttons, or other items displayed in a graphical user interface. Preferably,
16 personal communication device 101 allows two-way communication, and includes a
17 cellular link to the telephone network and/or paging network. Additionally, data card 115
18 may be provided to load personal communication device 101 with a preconfigured
19 database containing information pertaining to parties with which frequent communication
20 may occur.
21

22 Figure 18 provides a view of an alternative personal communication device 117,
23 which allows only one-way communication; personal communication device 117 may
24 receive information from the paging network, but may not directly originate an outgoing
25 communication with the telephone network, or with the paging network. As is shown,
26 personal communication device 117 includes display 119, which may display
27 identification 121 of the page-originating communicant, along with his or her address.
28 Telephone field 123 is also provided for displaying a telephone number at which the
29 page-originating communicant may be reached. Furthermore, short message 125 may

1 be provided to indicate either (1) the type of information which has been received at the
2 paging network, or (2) the degree of urgency attached to the particular information
3 received.
4

5 Data card 127 may be utilized to load personal communication device 117 with
6 additional database information. In the preferred embodiment of the present invention,
7 the information displayed in display 119 is based at least in-part upon caller-
8 identification information, and at least in-part upon information recalled from the
9 database resident in the memory of personal communication device 117 or within data
10 card 127. As is shown in Figure 18, keyboard 129 is provided to allow the page-
11 receiving communicant a means to enter or manipulate data within the database.
12

13 A third, and still different, embodiment of the present invention is depicted in
14 Figures 19a, 19b, and 19c. Figure 19a provides a view of the bottom portion of
15 personal communication device 131. Note that audio output device 133 is provided.
16 Mechanical coupler 135 provides a means for acoustically coupling personal
17 communication device 131 to any telephone equipment, particularly the mouthpiece of a
18 telephone handset, against which audio output device 133 is disposed.
19

20 **In Figure 19a data connector 134 and battery cover 132 is shown.**
21
22

23 Figure 19b provides a side view of personal communication device 131 of
24 Figure 19a. Note that [power switch] RJ11 telephone jack power switch 137 is
25 provided to [switch the power] connect the telephone line to personal
26 communication device 131 [off and on].
27

28 Figure 19c provides a view of the top portion of personal communication device
29 131. Display 139 is provided to receive and display numeric data, alphanumeric data,

1 and images. A plurality of icons **141** are provided about display **139**, each of which is
2 dedicated for the communication of particular information. For example, icon **143** is
3 representative of a clock, and may be utilized to indicate to the page-receiving
4 communicant that time-sensitive information has been communicated to the paging
5 network. For an alternative example, icon **145**, which depicts a telephone, is provided to
6 indicate to the page-receiving communicant that a telephone message has been
7 received by the paging network. A variety of other dedicated iconographic
8 representations are provided about display **139**, each of which is dedicated to
9 communicate particular, predefined information to the page-receiving communicant
10 pertaining to information deposited at the paging network. In Figure 19c icon **144** is
11 shown which initiates a recording mode for receiving sound signals from sound
12 input **102** for alert annunciation, and other customized audible notification
13 events.

14
15 Cursor movement keys **147** of Figure 19c may be used to selectively move
16 through messages received or data contained within a personal communicator
17 device. Computer icon **142** of Figure 19c may be utilized to initiate a data
18 communication session for data transfer with another computing device.
19 Calendar icon **140** can be used for display and manipulation of calendar
20 functions. Appointment book icon **146** can be used to view and manipulate
21 appointment data.

22
23 The device depicted in **Figures 19a, 19b, and 19c** allows only the receipt of
24 information from the paging network, and utilizes the dedicated icons to communicate
25 particular types of information to the page-receiving communicant. This allows the small
26 display **139** to be utilized for less-routine types of information.

27
28 **Figure 20** provides a block diagram view of portable communication device **201**.
29 As is shown, portable communication device **201** includes central processing unit **203**,

1 which preferably comprises a microprocessor. The microprocessor of central
2 processing unit **203** interacts with the plurality of hardware and software components.
3 Key pad input unit **231** communicates with central processing unit **203** to allow for the
4 operator to depress particular keys on a keyboard thereby inputting data into portable
5 communication device **201**. Receiver unit **233** is utilized to receive radio frequency
6 communication from the paging central office. Decoder unit **235** is utilized to decode
7 radio frequency signals received from receiver unit **233**. Decoder unit **235**
8 communicates with central processing unit **203** to power-up central processing unit **203**
9 when a page notification intended for portable communication device **201** is received at
10 receiver unit **233**. ID-ROM **237** is utilized to record in memory a particular numeric or
11 alphanumeric identifying information which is provided to code each particular portable
12 communication device in a paging network so that it is responsive to a particular radio
13 frequency transmission. ID-ROM **237** records the particular identification code assigned
14 to that particular communication device.

15
16 Central processing unit **203** communicates through display buffer **205**, in a
17 conventional manner, to place numeric data, alphanumeric data, and images, such as
18 icons, on display unit **207**. Light-emitting-diode **211** is provided to provide a flashing
19 indication of the receipt of a page. LED driver **209** is positioned intermediate central
20 processing unit **203** and LED **211**, to allow central processing unit **203** to drive LED **211**
21 in a variety of flashing patterns. Sound-signal generating unit **213** is coupled between
22 central processing unit **203** and audio output device **215**. Central processing unit **203**
23 provides binary control signals to sound-signal generating unit **213** which result in the
24 output of a particular tone, at a particular volume and a particular frequency. DTMF
25 signal generating unit **217** is coupled between central processing unit **203** and audio
26 output device **215**. It is utilized, when desired, to generate dialing tones which may be
27 communicated through audio output device **215** to the mouthpiece of a telephone to
28 place a call utilizing the telephone network. Buffer **219** is coupled to central processing
29 unit **203** and DTMF signal generating unit **217**, and is provided for queuing of DTMF

1 generating signals. Voice processing unit 221 is coupled to central processing unit 203
2 to allow the analog-to-digital and digital-to-analog conversion of speech and other audio
3 input 102 of Figur 7 and 102 of Figure 9c or output 133 of Figur 7 and 133 of
4 Figure 9a.

5
6 Several housekeeping functional blocks are also provided in the view of **Figure**
7 **20**. RAM 229 is provided as a memory cache. In the preferred embodiment of the
8 present invention, a database including a plurality of fields which identify actual or
9 potential communicants by name, address, and appropriate telephone and facsimile
10 numbers, is resident within RAM 229. Character generator 225 communicates with
11 central processing unit 203 to generate particular alphanumeric characters in response
12 to commands from central processing unit 203. MAC/PC download memory 227
13 operates a data exchange buffer to allow for the communication of data between central
14 processing unit 203 and personal computer 239. Personal computer 239 may be
15 utilized to store in memory the database which is intermittently downloaded through
16 MAC/PC download memory 227 for storage in RAM 229. Hardware communication
17 interface 202 of Figure 20 allows for data uploading and downloading between
18 personal computer 239 and a portable communication device 201. As is shown
19 in **Figure 20**, personal computer 239 is coupled in a node mail network which allows for
20 voice mail service (VMS), fax mail service (FMS), electronic mail service (EMS), paging
21 system (PS), images, and connection to information services. Communication link
22 218 allows for communication between a personal computer message center
23 device 239 and information sources referred to as node mail 204 utilizing the
24 telephone network. Such information sources include voice mail services (VMS)
25 216, electronic mail services (EMS) 214, fax mail services (FMS) 212, image mail
26 (IMAGE) 208 and information services (INFO SVCS) 206 which may be received
27 at personal computer 239 over the communication link 218. Additionally shown
28 is paging service (PS) 210 which can receive outbound communication over
29 communication link 218 from p rsonal comput r 239.

1
2 **Figure 21** provides a flowchart representation of the technique in accordance
3 with the **[pr s nt invention] a preferred mbodiment** for communicating information
4 between a page-originating communicant and a page-receiving communicant. The
5 process starts at software block **251**, wherein the page-originating communicant (user)
6 utilizes the telephone network to access an automated data entry system. As discussed
7 above, upon establishment of a voice circuit between the telephone unit utilized by the
8 page-originating communicant and the paging center, the caller identification
9 information, if any exists, is automatically transferred to the central office, where it is
10 decoded and preferably utilized in accordance with software block **255** in a recorded
11 menu exchange, wherein the information is verified and/or corrected and/or
12 supplemented.

13
14 In software block **257**, the page-originating communicant enters optional data.
15 This optional data may be numeric data, alphanumeric data, digitized speech, facsimile
16 messages, or images. In accordance with software block **259**, the paging system
17 identifies when the data entry has been completed, and confirms the data entry in
18 accordance with software block **261**. In accordance with software block **265**, the paging
19 network verifies the data, preferably by displaying it or otherwise making it available to
20 the page-originating communicant. In accordance with software block **263**, the page-
21 originating communicant hangs-up, and then, in accordance with software block **267**,
22 the data, including the caller-identification information and any optional or other data
23 attached to the page information, is transmitted via radio frequency communication link
24 **269** to portable communication device **271**.

25
26 The most common application of **[the present invention] a preferred**
27 **embodiment** requires that the page-originating communicant enter either numeric or
28 alphanumeric data which is identified with the caller-identification information. Upon
29 receipt by portable communication device **271**, at least one of either the numeric caller-

1 identification information, or the alphabetic caller-identification information, or the
2 optional data entered by the page-originating communicant is compared to one or more
3 data fields in a database which is maintained within memory (preferably RAM 229 of
4 **Figure 20**) of portable communication device 271 (of **Figure 21**).

5
6 **Figure 22** depicts one example of such a database. As shown, there are five
7 data fields associated with each entry: a telephone number field, a fax number field, a
8 name field, an "other data" field (preferably utilized for addresses) and a notification type
9 and intensity field.

10
11 In one particular embodiment of the present invention, the numeric or
12 alphanumeric data entered by the page-requesting communicant is compared to an
13 appropriate data field. For example, if the page-originating communicant entered
14 numeric telephone data as part of the page request, this numeric telephone data is
15 compared to numeric data fields which are representative of telephone numbers in order
16 to determine if one or more matches exist. If a match exists, it is probable that the page-
17 requesting communicant is the entity identified in an associated data field. For example,
18 if a telephone number is entered in the page request which corresponds to the first
19 number in the database, it is highly likely that Mr. Hashimoto, the first name in the
20 database, is the page-originating communicant.

21
22 The caller-identification information is also compared with one or more data fields
23 in the database. In one specific embodiment, numeric telephone data from the caller-
24 identification information is compared to numeric fields which represent telephone
25 numbers, in order to determine if one or more matches exists. If no matches exist, it is
26 highly likely that Mr. Hashimoto is calling from a telephone which is not ordinarily
27 associated with him. The page-receiving communicant can then decide to either return
28 the call immediately, or defer it to a later time. In this event, the page-receiving
29 communicant knows that Mr. Hashimoto is the likely page-originating communicant, and

1 that he can be reached at this particular time at the number identified in the caller-
2 identification information. In this manner, a protocol can be devised which automatically
3 access one or more of: (1) numeric or alphabetic characters that are located within the
4 caller-identification signal; and/or (2) numeric or alphanumeric characters entered by the
5 page-originating communicant into one or more data fields, in order to identify the likely
6 identity of the page-originating communicant, and to further to identify whether the likely
7 page-originating communicant is calling from a familiar telephone or an unfamiliar
8 telephone.

9
10 In instances where the caller-identification information fails to produce a match,
11 the page-receiving communicant may be provided with a particular type of notification to
12 indicate that a person is contacting him or her, or attempting to contact him or her, and
13 such a person is not listed within the database at this time. This may prompt the owner
14 of the personal communication device to utilize a key pad or alternative means to enter
15 that entity upon return of the telephone call.

16
17 The notification type field is interesting, insofar as it is user configurable, allowing
18 the page-receiving communicant to identify a particular type, or subtype, of paging
19 notification with one or more particular likely communicants. For example, LED displays
20 from LED 201 (of Figure 20) may be utilized to identify work associates, while audio
21 tones emitted from audio output device 215 (of Figure 20) may be utilized to indicate
22 that friends or family are attempting to notify the page-receiving communicant.

23
24 Preferably, the user may establish intensity levels or sequence levels for
25 particular types of page alert notifications. For example, the notation "VI" indicates a
26 visual indication with a high intensity. In contrast, the notation "BL" may denote a beep
27 (that is, audio output) of a low intensity. Still, in further contrast, the notation "T" may
28 identify that, for this particular potential communicant, only textual messages should be
29 utilized to identify receipt of the page. In this hierarchical structure, the entity which is

1 assigned the "T" notification type and intensity, is a fairly low priority potential
2 communicant, while the communicant which has the "VI" notification type and intensity
3 indicator identified therewith is a relatively high priority communicant. In this manner,
4 the page-receiving communicant may be able to prioritize his or her return phone call
5 activities.

6
7 A variety of mechanisms by which the owner of the portable communication
8 device may enter data, revise data, or review data are depicted graphically in **Figures**
9 **23, 24, 25, and 26.**

10
11 **Figure 23** depicts a portable communication device with a detachable input
12 interface, such as keyboard **301**, which releasably connects through connector **303** to
13 paging receiver **307**. Display **305** is also included in paging receiver **307**. Paging
14 receiver **307** also includes pager operation switches **309**. The owner of this paging
15 device may selectively releasably connect keyboard **301** to paging receiver **307**, and
16 then depress one or more keys on keyboard **301** to enter data at a cursor location which
17 is presented within display **305**. This device stands in sharp contrast with the device of
18 **Figure 24**, which includes keyboard **311** that is substantially permanently coupled to
19 paging receiver **313**. Paging receiver **313** also includes display **315**. Paging receiver
20 **313** preferably includes pager operation switches **317**. The operator may utilize
21 keyboard **311** to enter or modify data within display **315**. More particularly, the operator
22 may utilize keyboard **311** to add or modify data contained in the plurality of fields of the
23 database maintained within the memory of the portable communication device.

24
25 **Figure 25** provides yet another alternative embodiment contemplated **[under the**
26 **present invention]**. As is shown, paging receiver **321** is provided, and can be
27 selectively and releasably coupled to personal computer **327** via a serial hardwire line, a
28 parallel hardwire line, an infrared link, or a radio frequency link. Personal computer **327**
29 may be utilized to create and maintain the database with a plurality of data fields,

1 including such fields as communicant's name, communicant's telephone number,
2 communicant's fax number, communicant's address, and a field containing an operator-
3 selectable notification attribute or type. Such data may be intermittently transferred
4 between personal computer 327 and paging receiver 321, and maintained within a
5 random access memory within paging receiver 321.

6
7 Paging receiver 321 includes display 323 and pager operation switches 319,
8 which allow for conventional paging functions. In this embodiment, the data contained
9 within the database of paging receiver 319 is periodically refreshed by the owner by
10 conducting memory dumps from personal computer 327 to paging receiver 321. Upon
11 receipt of a page notification, the caller identification information and/or optional data
12 input by the page-originating communicant is compared with one or more fields of the
13 database contained within the memory of paging receiver 321.

14
15 **Figure 26** provides a view of yet another alternative embodiment contemplated in
16 the present invention. In this system, a very inexpensive paging unit, with limited display
17 capabilities, includes a memory for the receipt of the database with a plurality of data
18 fields including communicant's names, communicant's phone numbers, communicant's
19 fax numbers, communicant's addresses, and any user-selected notification attribute
20 identified to that particular communicant. The communication is periodically dumped in
21 a methodical fashion from personal computer 329 via wireless infrared communicator
22 331 to portable paging receiver 333.

23
24 **Figures 27 and 28** provide block diagram views of the software and hardware
25 components which facilitate the communication of the database between a computing
26 device, such as a personal computer, and the portable communication device. In
27 accordance with **Figure 27**, the personal computing device 401 includes operating
28 system 403, desktop application programs 405, data files 407, and intellect
29 communication software 409 which is resident in memory within the computing device,

1 and which is utilized in the transfer of information between computing device 401 and the
2 portable communication device 413, which includes download memory 419 which is
3 adapted to receive the database information. As is shown, the portable communication
4 device 413 may be connected via either hardware communication link 411, local infrared
5 communication 415, or remote telephone input 417. In **Figure 28**, a laptop architecture
6 is displayed for laptop 421, which includes operating system 423, personal information
7 manager 425, data files 427, PCMCIA interface 429 and communication software 431
8 which facilitates the transfer of information from the memory of the laptop computing
9 device 421 to the portable computing device 433.

10
11 **Figure 29** depicts yet another technique for entering and modifying data which is
12 present within the database present within the memory of the portable communication
13 device. As is shown, the page-receiving communicant inputs data on a physical form
14 435, which identifies communicant's names, communicant's telephone numbers,
15 communicant's fax numbers, communicant's addresses, and any associated notification
16 attribute for that particular communicant. Alternatively, information is provided via an
17 automated user input request system [439] 437 which preferably utilizes either a
18 portable computing device, a stationary computing device, or a telephone to input data
19 which is to be communicated via radio common carrier 439 to paging transmitter 441,
20 which communicates via radio frequency communication link 443 to paging receiver
21 445. The techniques for modifying the database are depicted in flowchart form in
22 **Figure 30**. The process starts at software block 451, and continues at software blocks
23 452, 453, and 454, wherein data is either manually entered or automatically entered and
24 routed through software block 453. In accordance with software block 455, data is
25 processed at a radio common carrier, and transmitted to software block 457, where it is
26 determined whether local programming is required, if so, the process continues at
27 software block 459; if not, the process continues at software block 460. In either event,
28 data is communicated to portable communication device 461 for creation,
29 supplementation, or modification of the database contained in memory in portable

1 communication device 461. In accordance with the flowchart of **Figure 30**, software
2 block [465] requires that message code cards be printed, and delivered in accordance
3 with software block 458 to a dealer or customer. The software steps associated with the
4 utilization of these code cards is depicted in flowchart form in **Figure 31**. In
5 accordance with software block 465, the page customer receives the printed message
6 card along with the pager at the beginning of pager service. In accordance with
7 software block 467, the page customer distributes the message cards to callers, and
8 instructs them to fill the data fields in the cards. In the flow of **Figure 31**, the cards are
9 distributed to callers A, B, and C in accordance with software blocks 469, 471, 473. The
10 callers consult their message cards, and enter the code data, and transmit it through
11 telephone office 477 to radio common carrier 479, which forwards it to paging
12 transmitter 41, which establishes a radio frequency link with portable communication
13 device 43.

14
15 **Figure 32 depicts a standardized message code card 609. Along with the**
16 **telephone number for the paging center 603. The card 609 of Figure 32 is shown.**
17 **The call receiving communicants pager ID number 605 identified, along with the**
18 **telephone number for the paging center 603. Then, a plurality of numeric or**
19 **alphanumeric codes are provided in field 601 for providing numeric or**
20 **alphanumeric messages 607.**

21
22 **Figure 33 depicts a standardized message code card 615 with message 611**
23 **corresponding to message code. Additionally shown in phone data field 613 is a**
24 **field for entering data which corresponds to name data field also shown on**
25 **message code card 615.**

26
27 **Figures 32 and 33 depict two types of standardized message code cards. The**
28 **card of Figure 32, the call-receiving communicant's pager ID number 605 is identified,**
29 **along with the telephone number for the paging center 603. Then, a plurality of numeric**

1 or alphanumeric codes are provided in a field **601**, with an area to the right for providing
2 numeric or alphanumeric messages **607** which correspond to the numeric or
3 alphanumeric codes. For example, the numeric value "0" may corresponds to the
4 answer "no", while the numeric value "1" may correspond to the answer "yes". In the
5 view of **Figure 33**, an alternative standardized message code card is provided, which
6 provides alphanumeric or numeric characters with alphabetic textual messages. For
7 example, the numeric code "11" corresponds to the message "pick up the kids".
8 Additionally, the potential communicant can enter phone data and fax data in fields
9 which are dedicated for that purpose. This information is entered on a wide number of
10 cards by people who are likely to communicate with the paging subscriber. They are
11 mailed in or entered in by the potential communicants, to form a database which is
12 periodically communicated to the page receiving apparatus.

13
14 While the inventions [has] have been shown in only one of its forms, it is not
15 thus limited but is susceptible to various changes and modifications without departing
16 from the spirit thereof. The above description is not intended to limit the meaning
17 of the words used in the following claims that define the invention. Rather, it is
18 contemplated that future modifications in structure, function or result will exist
19 that are not substantial changes and that all such insubstantial changes in what
20 is claimed are intended to be covered by the claims. While the inventions have
21 been particularly shown and described with reference to certain preferred
22 embodiments, it will be understood by those skilled in the art that various
23 modifications in form and detail may be made therein without departing from the
24 scope and spirit of the inventions. Accordingly, modification to the preferred
25 embodiments will be readily apparent to those skilled in the art, and the generic
26 principles defined herein may be applied to other embodiments or applications
27 without departing from the scope and spirit of the inventions.
28